Los Angeles Times

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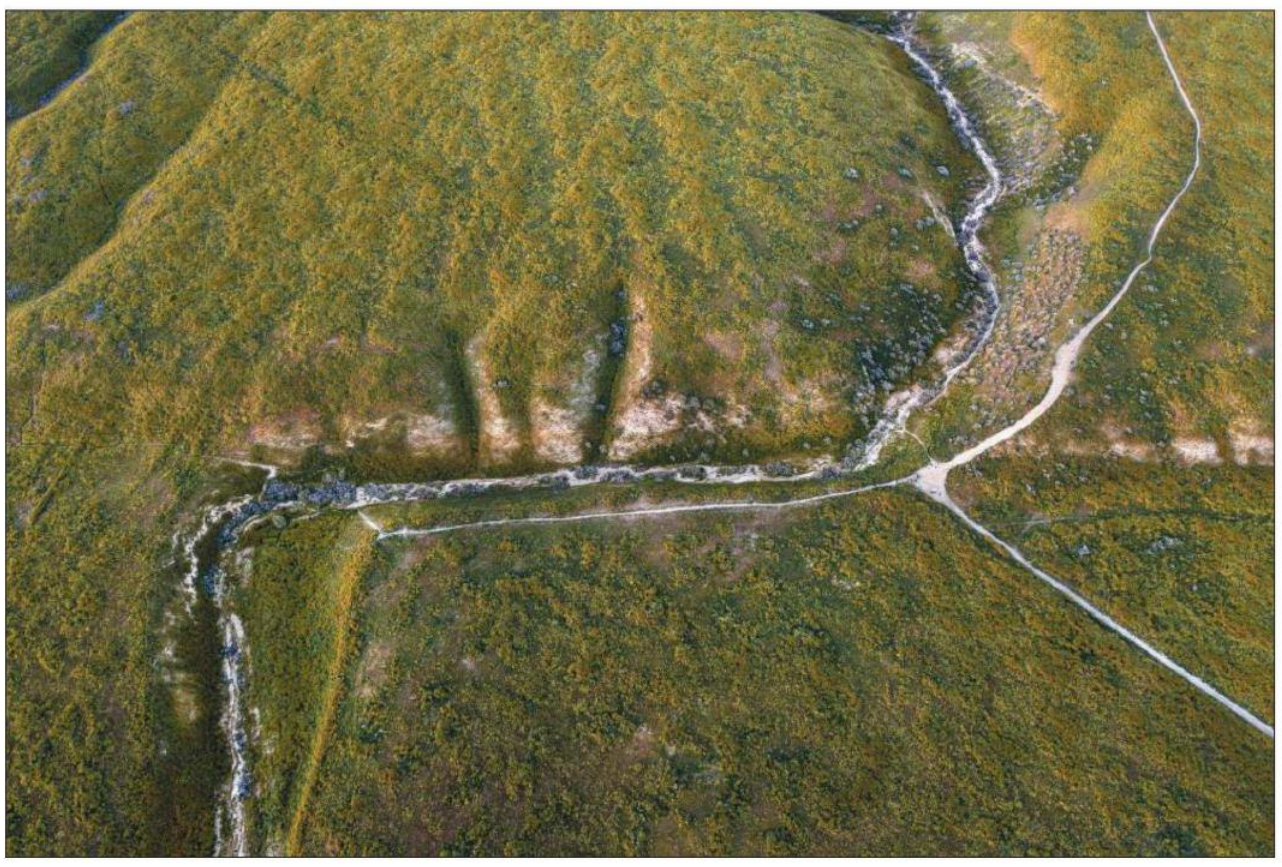


DAVID MCNEW Getty Images

THE COURSE of Wallace Creek in San Luis Obispo County has been altered by the San Andreas fault.

Why hasn't a Big One hit? Researchers discover a clue

Drying Salton Sea may be helping delay a major San Andreas quake

BY RONG-GONG LIN II

It's a riddle that has both blessed California and still raises worries for the future: Why hasn't L.A. seen a big San Andreas earthquake in generations? And what does that mean when it does come?

A new study provides a possible answer — the drying Salton Sea, about 150 miles southeast of L.A., and the lack of sudden, major floodwaters funneling into it since it formed more than a century ago.

But one thing is certain. The drought of earthquakes on the San Andreas fault will not last. A drying Salton Sea may be helping delay the next Big One, but that could result in a more powerful quake when it does strike.

A study published Wednesday in the journal Nature by scientists at San Diego State University and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego aimed to help explain why the southernmost tip of the San Andreas fault, close to the Mexican border, hasn't had an earthquake of a magnitude 7 or greater in

[See **Salton Sea,** A6]

GABRIELLE LAMARR LEMEE Los Angeles Times

Trump reveals indictment in special counsel investigation

First U.S. president charged with a federal crime faces 7 counts in court Tuesday over classified records case.

BY SARAH D. WIRE

WASHINGTON — Former President Trump has been indicted in connection with his handling of classified records, he said on social media Thursday, making him the first U.S. president charged with a federal crime.

"The corrupt Biden Administration has informed my attorneys that I have been Indicted, seemingly over the Boxes Hoax," he said on his Truth Social platform. "I never thought it possible that such a thing could happen to a former President of the United States... I AM AN INNOCENT MAN!"

Trump attorney John Rowley told NBC that his client was indicted on seven counts but did not reveal the precise nature of the charges. Trump's legal team did not immediately respond to requests for comment from The Times.

The former president said he has been summoned to appear in federal court in Miami on Tuesday afternoon.

Within minutes of his social media post, Trump's 2024 presidential campaign sent potential donors a fundraising appeal that claimed: "We are watching our Republic DIE before our very eyes."

The unprecedented decision to indict him comes after a more than yearlong investigation into whether Trump knowingly retained top-secret and other classified government records when he left office in 2021 and disregarded a subpoena to return all classified documents in his possession, and whether he and his staff obstructed FBI efforts to ensure all documents had been returned.

[See **Trump,** A7]

IN SPLIT, JUSTICES UPHOLD VOTING RIGHTS

High court's rejection of appeal in Alabama could help Democrats campaigning in South.

BY DAVID G. SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court upheld the broad reach of the Voting Rights Act on Thursday, ruling that Alabama's Republican lawmakers are required to draw a new election district that would probably elect a Black Democrat to Congress.

In a 5-4 vote that surprised voting rights advocates, the justices rejected an appeal from Alabama Republicans and reaffirmed the principle of fair representation for racial and ethnic minorities.

The outcome could bolster Democrats in Republican strongholds across the South and potentially tilt control of the closely divided House of Representatives.

Writing for the court, Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. said Congress had amended the Voting Rights Act in 1982 to ensure that Black voters were not denied an equal opportunity to "elect representatives of their choice." The voting power of Black people would be "diluted" and made meaningless if nearly all districts can be drawn to preserve white majorities, civil rights advocates said.

Six of Alabama's seven congressional districts reliably elect Republicans, although about 27% of the state's population is Black. Last year, a panel of three judges said the state could easily draw a second com-

[See **Voting rights,** A7]

BRIAN BOHANNON Associated Press

TRACK PERSONNEL hold Eight Belles, who broke both front ankles after the 2008 Kentucky Derby.

Racing aims to save horses — and itself

It's almost impossible for them to survive a major injury, but bettering the odds is key to sport's survival.

BY JOHN CHERWA

ELMONT, N.Y. — It's a scene that plays out at racetracks more frequently than anyone wants. A horse is pulled up and out of competition as the race continues and those in attendance cheer for their horse, or more realistically, their wager on that horse.

Those looking to the spot where the horse pulled up see an outrider arrive first. The jockey pulls off the saddling equipment. In a matter of moments, a track veterinarian, who has been following in a vehicle behind the field, starts examining the horse, hoping for the best but prepared for the worst.

An equine ambulance is called and it pulls up very close to the stricken horse. If lucky, the horse is calm and not favoring any limbs. It willingly walks on to the ambulance and it seems as if everything will be OK.

The horse is taken by ambulance to the backside of

[See **Horse deaths,** A9]

PAT ROBERTSON, 1930 - 2023

Evangelical TV broadcaster elevated the religious right

BY REBECCA TROUNSON

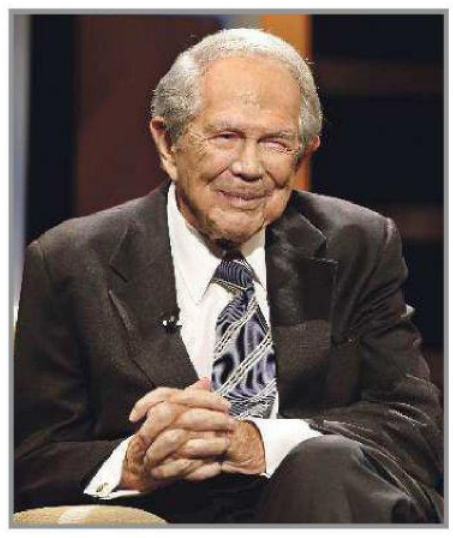
Pat Robertson, the charismatic religious broadcaster who parlayed the success of his pioneering television ministry into the first serious bid by an evangelical leader for the U.S. presidency, then launched the influential Christian Coalition advocacy group, has died. He was 93.

Robertson's death Thursday was announced by his broadcasting network. No cause was given.

The founder of the Christian Broadcasting Network and host of its enormously popular, long-running program, "The 700 Club," had suffered a stroke in 2018.

A former Southern Baptist minister who said God had inspired him to run for president, Robertson made a strong start in his campaign for the 1988 Republican nomination, stunning better-known opponents, including Vice President George

[See **Robertson,** A12]



STEVE HELBER Associated Press

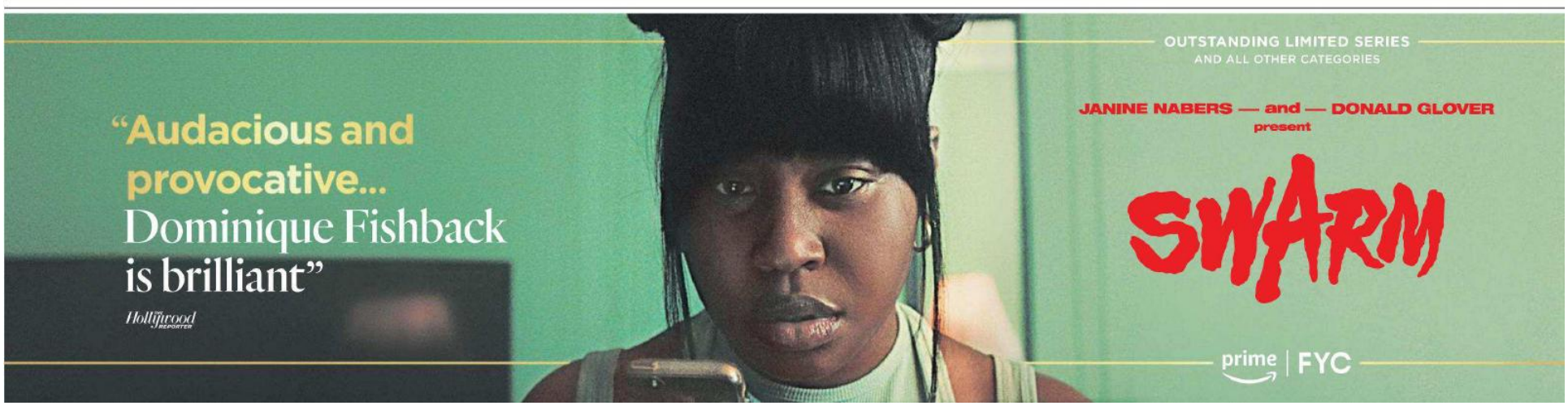
'HE SAW THE POSSIBILITIES' Pat Robertson, host of "The 700 Club," tried a run for president in 1988.

Skies of orange above nation
Unhealthy air, smoke continue to cover large swaths of U.S. for third straight day. **NATION, A4**

Deal is reached in rent relief lawsuit
What landlords and tenants need to know about state settlement. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Merger tees up 'sportswashing'
Union of LIV Golf and PGA Tour reflects value of athletics as image enhancer. **BUSINESS, A8**

Weather: Low clouds. L.A. Basin: 71/58. **B6**



VISIT…

Trump's legal jeopardy an 'opening' for his rivals

Republican candidates begin direct criticisms of the indicted former president as they seek the 2024 nomination.

By David Lauter

Charles Krupa Associated Press

FORMER NEW JERSEY Gov. Chris Christie, right, is among top Republicans seeking the 2024 presidential nomination. He has accused the Trump family of "grift" and described the former president's term as a failure.

WASHINGTON — The race for the Republican presidential nomination hit an inflection point this week, with the final major hopefuls announcing their decisions and stepping up attacks on the newly indicted front-runner, former President Trump.

The pack chasing Trump has roughly six months of debates, town halls and fundraising pitches before voters start to winnow the field. That process will be made more urgent by memories of 2016, when multiple rivals split the anti-Trump vote, allowing him to win long before he had consolidated majority support.

Trump has kept a big lead in polls, and "a lot of folks have been quick to declare this race as essentially over," said University of Denver political scientist Seth Masket. The candidates, however, are showing by their behavior that "they see an opening," he said.

Why do so many candidates see Trump as vulnerable? His indictment on Thursday on multiple charges related to his handling of classified documents he had stashed at his Mar-a-Lago residence provides one answer.

Trump has used previous legal woes as a way to cement the loyalties of Republican voters, and he followed that pattern this week.

"HOW CAN DOJ CHARGE ME WHO DID NOTHING WRONG, WHEN NO OTHER PRESIDENT'S WERE CHARGED, WHEN JOE BIDEN WON'T BE CHARGED FOR ANYTHING," he wrote in a post on his social media platform, Truth Social, after his lawyers met with prosecutors early in the week.

Two former allies change their tune

In the short run, that may work. At least for a while, the news of the charges will blot out any attention that Trump's challengers might receive. Longer-term, no one knows whether a significant number of Republican voters will view the charges as disqualifying or whether they will brush them aside as they have with previous accusations.

Even before the indictment, one candidate, former Gov. Asa Hutchinson of Arkansas, had called for Trump to quit the race. Trump "is the target of an ongoing criminal investigation and he should step aside," Hutchinson tweeted.

Hutchinson's support is barely a blip, however.

In California, which will send the largest delegation to next year's Republican nominating convention, three-quarters of likely Republican primary voters had a favorable view of Trump, according to our most recent Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies poll, cosponsored by the Los Angeles Times, which was taken in late May.

The poll found 86% believed the investigations of the former president were more about politics and political revenge than about justice and the law.

Seventy-one percent said it was more important to nominate the candidate who best represents their opinions than one with the best chance of beating President Biden.

And a recent Monmouth University poll found that almost two-thirds of Republicans said Trump was definitely (45%) or probably (18%) the party's strongest candidate against Biden.

"If your message to voters who support Trump is he cannot win, you are going to hit a brick wall," wrote Patrick Murray, director of the Monmouth University Polling Institute.

Finding a message that works against Trump has eluded his Republican opponents since 2015, Masket noted.

"Nothing has worked," he said.

But after months in which the candidates mostly appeared to tiptoe around Trump, the attacks have sharpened, most notably with two new entrants — former Vice President Mike Pence and former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie.

The two share the experience of being nearly killed by Trump's recklessness — Pence on Jan. 6, 2021, by the Trump-inspired mob that howled for his hanging; Christie by COVID-19, which he contracted in 2020 after extensive prep sessions for the first debate between Trump and Biden.

Trump, already ill, hid his symptoms during debate prep; Christie spent seven days in intensive care before recovering.

For Pence — the first vice president to challenge the president he served since John Nance Garner sought to deny Franklin D. Roosevelt a third term in 1940 — Wednesday's announcement rally in Iowa marked a shift in course.

"It might be fair to ask why I'm challenging my former running mate," he told the crowd. On Jan. 6, "President Trump ... demanded that I choose between him and the Constitution. Now voters will be faced with the same choice," he said. "Anyone who puts themselves over the Constitution should never be president of the United States.

"And anyone who asks someone else to put them over the Constitution should never be president of the United States again," he said.

Whether Pence truly means "never" is unclear — he later suggested he might support Trump if he became the nominee.

Christie, by contrast, is more comfortable with the concept of campaigning as payback and has built almost his entire pitch around the premise that if he gets on the debate stage with Trump — no sure thing given the qualifying rules — he can deliver a knockout blow.

Trump is a "lonely, self-consumed, self-serving mirror hog" who "never admits a fault, and who always finds someone else and something else to blame for whatever goes wrong, but finds every reason to take credit for anything that goes right," he said at his announcement in New Hampshire. He accused Trump and his family of "grift" and described Trump's term in office as a failure.

Christie is widely unpopular with voters in both parties, and they may scoff at his shift from Trump apologist to scourge. But even if his campaign goes nowhere, his words could open the way for others.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, for example, who has consistently taken second place in polls, has tried to woo Trump's hard-core supporters by running to his right on issues like COVID (he has criticized Trump for not firing Anthony Fauci) and crime (he has said he would repeal the criminal justice reform law that Trump signed in 2018, calling it "a jailbreak bill [that] ... has allowed dangerous people out of prison").

But he has avoided direct attacks while seeding questions about whether the former president can win.

"There's a lot of voters who just aren't going to vote for him, who don't like Biden, and who realize that the country's going in the wrong direction, but they're not going to go there," he said during a recent interview with Fox's Brian Kilmeade.

Those candidates and the others, including former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott and North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum, who also entered the race this week, have a short time to see whether their arguments can make a dent, says New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu.

He announced that he would not run and said he would try to use his position as governor of the state with the GOP's first primary to ensure the party does not repeat the experience of 2016.

Trump is an "indisputable" loser in a rematch with Biden, Sununu wrote. The rest of the field needs to recognize the need to not divide the opposition as they did then.

"Every candidate needs to understand the responsibility of getting out and getting out quickly if it's not working," he said on CNN.

"Christmas at the latest."

'Too small' shirt goes to high court

The Supreme Court said Monday that it will decide whether Trump can be mocked as "too small" on a trademarked T-shirt.

Usually, the trademark law does not allow for using someone's name over his objection.

But in this instance, a federal appeals court said California lawyer Steve Elster had a free speech right to trademark the phrase "Trump too small" for use on T-shirts and hats.

Elster had argued the trademark would be used as "political commentary."

Rendons' income grows with power

When California Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) steps down from his powerful post at the end of the month, he'll leave behind a legacy as one of the state's longest-serving legislative leaders, having helped Democrats secure stronger labor protections for gig workers, launch universal preschool and extend a marquee program to combat climate change during his seven-year tenure.

Off the Assembly floor, Rendon is also one-half of a political power couple that includes Annie Lam, a successful consultant and nonprofit executive who has dedicated her career to diversifying California politics and other institutions of power.

As Rendon's influence grew, financial and lobbying disclosures show that Lam's consultancy business similarly boomed.

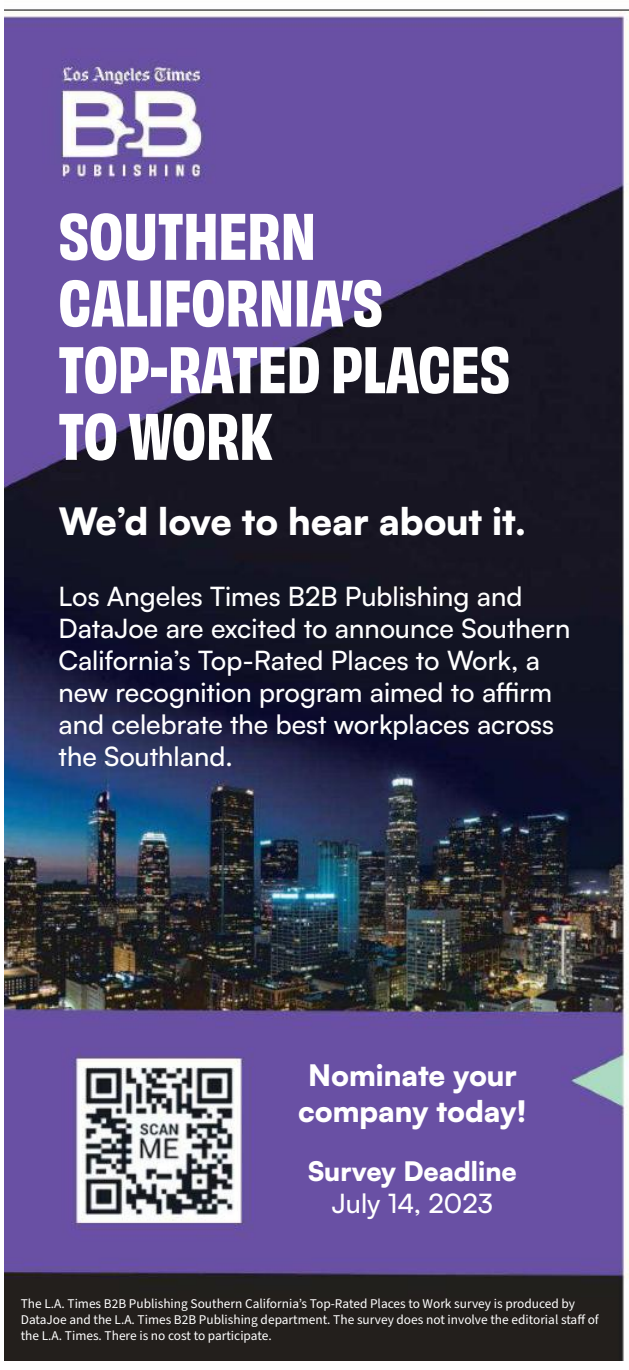
'Bob's Burgers' actor is arrested

"Bob's Burgers" star Jay Johnston was arrested Wednesday on suspicion of participating in the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol.

The 54-year-old actor, known for voicing Jimmy Pesto Sr. on the animated comedy series, stands accused of causing civil disorder, unlawfully entering a restricted area and impeding passage through Capitol grounds.

FOR THE RECORD

DMV placards: In the June 7 California section, an article about abuse in the use of disabled parking placards stated that motorists who received their original placard before January 2019 will be required to sign the DMV form. People who received their placard before 2017 will be affected.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Suspect in Holloway case flown to U.S.

Convicted of murder in Peru, he now faces extortion trial related to the student, missing since '05 Aruba trip.

By Kim Chandler, Regina Garcia Cano and Franklin Briceño

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Joran van der Sloot, the chief suspect in the 2005 disappearance of U.S. student Natalee Holloway, arrived in the United States from Peru on Thursday to face charges that he attempted to extort money from the missing woman's mother.

An FBI-operated plane transporting Van der Sloot landed at Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport in Alabama around 2:30 p.m., just hours after Peruvian authorities handed him over temporarily to U.S. custody. He was escorted down the plane's steps into a black SUV, which took him to a local jail.

Van der Sloot was scheduled to be arraigned in federal court in Birmingham at 11 a.m. Friday, according to court records.

Kevin Butler, an attorney listed as Van der Sloot's public defender, did not return an email seeking comment on the case.

Video and photos released by Peruvian authorities Thursday showed the suspect wearing jeans and a black puffer jacket, shaking his shoulders and grimacing as officers adjust his handcuffs and remove a vest marked "Interpol." Video and images also showed law enforcement officers from Peru, the FBI and Interpol as well as one healthcare professional in a conference room with Van der Sloot.

Martin Mejia Associated Press

DUTCH CITIZEN Joran van der Sloot is taken from prison in Peru on Thursday to be flown to Alabama.

The Dutch national has been serving a 28-year sentence in Peru after confessing to killing a Peruvian woman. He is wanted in the U.S. on one count each of extortion and wire fraud — the only charges to be filed in relation to Holloway's disappearance on the Caribbean island of Aruba. He was handed over to the U.S. about a month after the countries agreed on his extradition.

Holloway's mother, Beth Holloway, said she was "overcome with mixed emotions."

"For 18 years, I have lived with the unbearable pain of Natalee's loss," she said in a written statement. "Each day has been filled with unanswered questions and a longing for justice that has eluded us at every turn. But today ... I am hopeful that some small semblance of justice may finally be realized."

Natalee Holloway, 18, was in Aruba on a high school graduation trip with classmates from Mountain Brook, Ala., when she vanished in 2005. She was last seen leaving a bar in Aruba with Van der Sloot, who has been questioned but never charged in her disappearance.

U.S. prosecutors say that in 2010, Van der Sloot contacted Beth Holloway, seeking $250,000 in exchange for disclosing the location of her daughter's body. A grand jury indicted him that year on one count each of wire fraud and extortion.

A judge has declared Holloway dead, but her body has never been found. Her mysterious disappearance sparked years of news coverage and numerous true-crime podcasts.

Van der Sloot pleaded guilty in Peru in 2012 to murdering 21-year-old Stephany Flores, a business student from a prominent Peruvian family. She was killed in 2010 — five years to the day after Holloway's disappearance.

In 2014, Van der Sloot married a Peruvian woman in a ceremony at a maximum-security prison. He was transferred among Peruvian prisons in response to reports that he enjoyed privileges such as television, internet access and a cellphone, and accusations that he had threatened to kill a warden.

A 2001 treaty between Peru and the U.S. allows a suspect to be temporarily extradited to face trial in the other country.

Van der Sloot's attorney, Máximo Altez, initially indicated his client would not challenge his extradition, but on Monday Altez filed a writ of habeas corpus. A judge ruled against Van der Sloot the following day.

Van der Sloot's time in the U.S. "will be extended until the conclusion of the criminal proceedings," including through any appeals, according to a resolution published in Peru's federal register. The resolution also states that U.S. authorities have agreed to return Van der Sloot to the custody of Peru afterward.

Joyce Vance, who was a federal prosecutor in Alabama when Van der Sloot was charged, said his arrival is a long-awaited opportunity for justice.

"We always say that justice delayed is justice denied, and there's a certain simple truth to that," said Vance, former U.S. attorney for the northern district of Alabama, which includes Birmingham. "But this case makes me think sometimes justice delayed is actually worth it.

"It's not optimal. It's not what anybody would have wanted at the outset, but justice delayed is better than justice never delivered."

Chandler and Briceño write for the Associated Press. AP staff member Garcia Cano reported from Mexico City. AP journalists Mauricio Muñoz in Lima, Peru, and Lindsay Whitehurst in Washington contributed to this report.

Russia shells Ukrainian city hit by flooding

Attacks come after catastrophic dam collapse in southern region, forcing some rescue work to halt.

By Vasilisa Stepanenko and Jamey Keaten

KHERSON, Ukraine — Russian forces Thursday shelled a southern Ukrainian city that was inundated in a catastrophic dam collapse, Ukrainian officials said, forcing a suspension of some rescue work hours after President Volodymyr Zelensky went to the area to assess the damage.

The fresh fighting returned security issues to the region, two days after the collapse of the Kakhovka dam on the Dnipro River set off a scramble to evacuate residents in dozens of flooded areas and get aid to those still there.

Officials on both sides said at least 14 people were killed in the flooding, thousands are homeless and tens of thousands are without drinking water after the collapse. Kyiv accused Moscow of blowing up the dam and its associated hydropower plant, which the Kremlin's forces controlled, and Russia said Ukraine bombarded it.

The ensuing flooding has ruined crops, displaced land mines, wrought widespread environmental damage and set the stage for long-term electricity shortages. Drone footage captured by the Associated Press showed the ruined dam falling into the flooded river, along with hundreds of submerged homes, greenhouses and even a church.

Upriver from the dam, a supply of water used to cool Europe's largest nuclear power plant was nearing critically low levels, Ukraine's state hydroelectric company said. But the United Nation's atomic energy watchdog said Wednesday that work was underway to ensure the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant had enough water in reserve to cool its shut-down reactors, in case supplies fell too much.

Zelensky's office said Moscow's forces also continued to shell Ukrainian-held areas near the nuclear plant, which is under Russian control.

The high water brought new misery and death to a country suffering uncounted casualties after 15 months of war.

Vladimir Leontyev, the Kremlin-installed mayor of Nova Kakhovka, a Russian-occupied city adjacent to the dam, told Russian state TV that five residents there had died in the flooding. And Mykolaiv regional Gov. Vitalii Kim said one person had died in that region northwest of the city of Kherson.

Evgeniy Maloletka Associated Press

RESCUERS evacuate a woman from a flooded neighborhood in Kherson, Ukraine, on Wednesday. Ukrainian and Russian officials said at least 14 people were killed in the flooding caused by a dam collapse on Tuesday.

Yevhen Ryshchuk, the mayor of Oleshky to the south who fled the town after the Russians took over, told the Associated Press that residents told him eight people had died so far in the flooding. His tally could not immediately be verified.

Residents of Oleshky have accused Russian authorities in the town of not doing enough to help civilians, and they have formed a group of over 8,000 that is sharing messages about information such as stranded and trapped locals.

Ryshchuk said that Russian forces are not letting people leave and are instead confiscating boats from residents and volunteers. This was confirmed by two volunteers, who told the AP that the Russian military was taking away boats brought by volunteers. Volunteer Yaroslav Vasiliev said the Russian military seized three boats from volunteers Wednesday.

From afar, relatives of Oleshky residents said Russian forces were evacuating only Russian passport holders there.

"My relatives said Russian soldiers were coming up to the house today by boat, but they said they would only take those with Russian passports," said Viktoria Mironova-Baka, 32, speaking by phone from Germany.

In the city of Kherson, the largest municipality affected, Russian shelling echoed not far from a square where emergency crews and volunteers were dispensing aid. Nine people were wounded, including two emergency workers, a policemen, a doctor and a volunteer from Germany.

As shells landed in floodwaters, rescue workers temporarily suspended efforts to retrieve stranded residents and pets in an area that Zelensky had visited only hours earlier, officials said.

"The strikes began during evacuation of the residents, whose houses were flooded," the Internal Affairs Ministry said. "Russia has abandoned people in calamity in the occupied part of the Kherson region. It continues to prevent Ukraine from saving the most valuable — human lives."

Zelensky visited an aid distribution point and a medical facility in Kherson, ordering officials to provide a "fair valuation" of the devastation to compensate residents, his office said in an update.

Russian President Vladimir Putin "has no plans at the current moment" to visit the affected Moscow-occupied areas, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told journalists.

Regional Gov. Vladimir Saldo, who was installed by Moscow to oversee the area that Russia occupies, accused Ukrainian troops of firing at an evacuation point in Hola Prystan, a Russian-occupied town. Saldo said in a Telegram post that two people, including a pregnant 33-year-old woman, were killed and that two others were wounded. It was not immediately possible to verify his account.

Fighting has intensified along the more than 620-mile front line from Kherson on the Black Sea to Ukraine's border with Russia — in what some experts and officials say could be part of a long-expected Ukrainian counteroffensive. Kyiv has said it won't announce the start of any such campaign.

The destruction of the dam prompted the United Nations and local authorities to say that the most immediate concerns were access to fresh water and avoiding contact with water contaminated by explosives and industrial chemicals.

Officials say more than 6,000 people have been evacuated from both sides of the river. The true scale of the disaster is yet to emerge in an affected area that was home to more than 60,000 people.

In areas that they control, Russian-appointed authorities said nearly two dozen people have been hospitalized, 4,280 people have been evacuated and some 14,000 buildings have been flooded.

Russian officials say the destruction of the dam will eventually halt freshwater supplies to southern Ukraine and Russian-controlled Crimea, even though the peninsula has enough fresh water for now — with its reservoirs 80% full.

Ukrainian authorities cut off freshwater supplies to Crimea after Moscow's illegal annexation of the peninsula in 2014, and Putin cited the need to restore them as one of the main reasons for his decision to invade Ukraine.

Regional Gov. Oleksandr Prokudin said roughly 230 square miles of the region was submerged — more than two-thirds of that on the Russian-controlled eastern bank.

French President Emmanuel Macron tweeted that the destruction of the dam was an "attack" and an "atrocious act," without saying who was to blame. Paris said it was sending aid, including water purifiers, 500,000 water purification tablets and hygiene kits to help people displaced.

Ukrainian officials have accused Russia of purposely destroying the dam, which is in an area controlled by Russian forces.

President Alexander Lukashenko of Belarus, a key Putin ally, claimed Ukraine blew up the dam to distract attention from what Moscow described as a botched Ukrainian attempt to launch a counteroffensive.

Ukrainian authorities have largely kept quiet about recent development on the battlefield amid growing reports of intensified fighting that could add up to the long-awaited counteroffensive.

Stepanenko and Keaten write for the Associated Press.

S. Korea to examine foreign adoptions

Panel will investigate more cases involving the falsified origins of adoptees to favor U.S. and European parents.

Associated Press

SEOUL — South Korea's Truth and Reconciliation Commission said Thursday that it would investigate 237 more cases of South Korean adoptees who suspect their family origins were manipulated to facilitate their adoptions in Europe and the U.S.

The new cases in the commission's expanded inquiry into South Korea's foreign adoption boom involve adoptees in 11 nations, including the U.S., Denmark, Norway and Sweden, who were adopted from 1960 to 1990. More than 370 adoptees from Europe, North America and Australia filed applications last year demanding their cases be investigated.

When the commission announced in December that it would investigate an initial raft of 34 cases, it said the records of many adoptees sent to the West had clearly been manipulated to describe them falsely as orphans or to fake their identities by borrowing the details of a third person.

The commission said most of the applicants claimed that their adoptions were based on records that falsified their status or origin to ensure their adoptability and expedite custody transfers across borders. Some applicants asked the commission to look into abuse that they say they experienced at South Korean orphanages or under the care of their foreign adoptive parents.

The commission's potential findings could allow adoptees to take legal actions against agencies or the government, which would otherwise be difficult because South Korean civil courts put the burden of proof entirely on plaintiffs, who often lack information and resources.

Of the 271 cases accepted by the commission so far, 141 concern Danish adoptees, including members of the Danish Korean Rights Group co-led by adoptee activist Peter Moller, which submitted an initial 51 applications in August last year. Other cases accepted by the commission include those of 28 U.S. adoptees and 21 Swedish adoptees, officials said.

The commission, which is reviewing the applications in the order they were submitted, is likely to investigate the remaining cases too, according to officials.

About 200,000 South Koreans, mostly girls, were adopted by parents in the West in the last six decades, creating what's believed to be the world's largest diaspora of adoptees.

Most were placed with white parents in the U.S. and Europe during the 1970s and '80s. South Korea was then ruled by a succession of military dictatorships, which were focused on economic growth and saw adoptions as a tool to reduce the number of mouths to feed, erase the "social problem" of unwed mothers and deepen ties with the democratic West.

The military governments implemented special laws aimed at promoting foreign adoptions that in practice allowed adoption agencies to bypass proper child-relinquishment practices as they sent thousands of children to the West year after year during the adoptions' heyday.

Most adoptees were registered by agencies as orphans found abandoned on the streets, although they frequently had relatives who could be easily identified or found. That practice often makes their roots difficult or impossible to trace.

It wasn't until 2013 that South Korea's government required foreign adoptions to go through family courts, ending a decades-long policy that allowed agencies to dictate child relinquishment and international transfers of custody.

Hazardous haze still covers large swaths of U.S.

Unhealthy air and smoke from hundreds of forest fires burning in Canada continue to blanket some regions.

By Alexandra E. Petri

Chip Somodevilla Getty Images

SMOKE from Canada's fires casts a veil of haze around the White House as tourists walk along the National Mall on Thursday in Washington. Air pollution alerts were in place for a third day across the eastern U.S.

Large swaths of the U.S. continue to be blanketed in a thick haze of smoke from hundreds of forest fires burning in Canada, with Thursday marking the third day of unhealthy and hazardous air quality conditions that have snarled air traffic, forced the cancellation of events and prompted numerous health advisories.

The smoke billowing across the border led officials in several states across the Great Lakes region and the Ohio Valley stretching to the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states to extend air quality warnings until midnight Thursday.

The hazy, polluted skies and campfire smells have rattled residents across parts of the country where the threat from wildfires is uncharted territory. Residents, particularly the most vulnerable, were urged to stay indoors; others were advised to wear high-quality, N95 masks outside, an unwelcome reminder of those frightening and uncertain days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Flights were temporarily grounded or facing major delays at critical transportation hubs, including in Philadelphia and New York City, because of low visibility. School field trips and outdoor recess were canceled for millions of students in affected states as concerns lingered about when the smoke would lift.

According to AirNow, which offers real-time tracking of AQI, Maryland and Washington, D.C., were hotspots for polluted air Thursday, after the smoke began to travel southward from parts of the upper Northeast. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, which covers D.C. along with parts of Maryland and Virginia, issued its first code purple alert, triggered when fine particulates reach very unhealthy levels — above 200 AQI — for everyone.

"There was somewhat of a windshift to bring that plume down to the south overnight last night into this morning," said Cody Ledbetter, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Air quality alerts have been issued as far south as the Carolinas. The National Weather Service also said that air quality is likely to decline in Georgia and Alabama.

In Washington, D.C., where the air quality level was 273 as of 1 p.m. Eastern on Thursday and residents shared photos of a gloomy, apocalyptic capital early, the White House postponed its Pride event, which was expected to draw thousands of people, on the South Lawn from Thursday night to Saturday. The Washington Nationals postponed their game Thursday against the Arizona Diamondbacks to June 22, the team said on Twitter.

In New York City, which for several days running ranked No. 1 for the world's most polluted city as indexes climbed above 400, residents woke up to hazy skies again, but air quality levels across the state appeared to improve. By Thursday afternoon, counties across New York had dropped to unhealthy levels below 200 — still above normal, but better than previous days.

Officials were urging residents to stay indoors, noting the conditions could change rapidly. New York Gov. Kathy Hochul said that approximately 1 million N95-style masks would be made available at state-owned facilities. The Belmont Stakes, a major horse racing event on Long Island, could be canceled this weekend if air quality levels creep back above 200, Hochul said.

Residents in New Jersey and Pennsylvania — where hazardous conditions hit record levels in some areas overnight — battled another day of bad air, though dangerous conditions were dropping off throughout the day as the smoke drifted south.

The smoke blanketing the region stems from Canada, which has had an explosive start to its wildfire season with nearly 400 active blazes scorching forests around the country, about 150 of which are in the eastern province of Quebec. High temperatures and dry conditions, along with lightning, ignited the province's fires, which swelled over the weekend and floated south across the border with the windflow.

President Biden has spoken with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada to offer federal support.

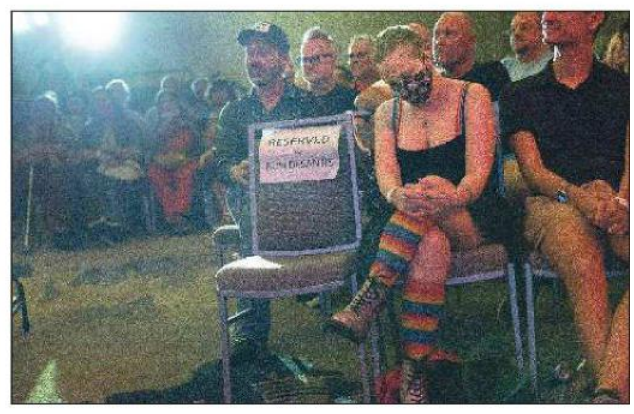
"We've deployed more than 600 U.S. firefighters, support personnel, and equipment to support Canada as they respond to record wildfires — events that are intensifying because of the climate crisis," Biden said on Twitter.

An area of low pressure stalled over New England is directing the airflow from Canada, meteorologists have said. That system could shift this weekend, but the weather service warned that "as long as the fires continue, the smoke may simply be directed towards other areas of the U.S."

Biden criticizes anti-LGBTQ+ bills

He condemns states trying to curtail rights, calls for protections.

By Darlene Superville



Joe Raedle Getty Images

A SEAT is held for Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis during the Miss Gay Days Pageant in Orlando on Saturday.

WASHINGTON — President Biden on Thursday condemned a wave of "cruel" and "callous" state laws curbing the rights, visibility and healthcare access of LGBTQ+ people, especially children, leaving them feeling under attack and the White House with limited options to intervene.

"These are our kids. These are our neighbors. It's cruel and it's callous," Biden said at a White House news conference with British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. "It matters a great deal how we treat everyone in this country."

Biden commented hours after the White House postponed a large Pride month celebration with thousands of guests Thursday night on the South Lawn because of poor air quality from hazardous air flowing in from Canadian wildfires.

The president noted steps he has taken to help protect the rights of nonheterosexual people, but said "our fight is far, far from over because we have some hysterical and, I would argue, prejudiced people who are engaged in all that you see going on around the country."

He said what is happening in some states is an "unjustified and ugly" appeal to fear and called on lawmakers to pass legislation, which has been stalled in Congress, that would protect the civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer individuals.

"Congress must pass, must pass the Equality Act and send it to my desk," Biden said of a legislative measure he had named a top priority during his 2020 campaign.

The president then spoke directly to LGBTQ+ Americans, especially children: "You're loved, you're heard and this administration has your back and I mean it. We are not relenting one single second to make sure that they're protected."

Biden also described new initiatives the administration announced earlier Thursday to protect LGBTQ+ communities from attack; help young people in foster care, suffering with mental health or experiencing homelessness; and counter book bans, though the effects may be limited.

Thousands of guests had been invited from around the country for an evening filled with food, games and other activities on the South Lawn. Queen HD the DJ was handling the music, and singer Betty Who was on tap to perform.

But the nation's capital by late morning Thursday was under a "code purple" air quality alert, the fifth-highest level on the six-level U.S. air quality index, with authorities recommending that everyone limit their exposure to the hazardous smoke wafting south from Canada.

District of Columbia schools canceled all outdoor activities for a second day Thursday, and the National Zoo also closed.

The White House initially resisted altering its plans for the celebration, even as the air quality steadily worsened along the East Coast on Wednesday and into Thursday.

The Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest advocacy organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer individuals, marked June's Pride month by declaring a state of emergency for LGBTQ+ individuals in the United States and releasing a guidebook outlining laws it deems discriminatory in each state.

The campaign said it acted in response to an "unprecedented and dangerous" spike in discriminatory laws sweeping statehouses this year, with more than 525 anti-LGBTQ+ bills introduced and more than 70 signed into law so far — more than double last year's number.

Kelley Robinson, the campaign's president, called for a "swift and powerful" response by people in power, including in government, business and education.

"This is a full-out crisis for our communities that demands a concerted response," she said in an interview with the Associated Press. "I think this is kind of a national call to action and a call to arms to stand up and fight back."

Biden, a Democrat, announced that the Department of Homeland Security, working with the Justice and Health and Human Services departments, will partner with LGBTQ+ community organizations to provide safety resources and training to help thwart violent attacks.

Separately, HHS and the Department of Housing and Urban Development will provide resources to help LGBTQ+ young people with mental health needs, support in foster care and homelessness.

To confront a spike in book bans, the Department of Education's civil rights office will appoint a new coordinator to work with schools to address that threat.

The White House said banning books erodes democracy, deprives students of material needed for learning and can contribute to the stigma and isolation that LGBTQ+ youth feel because books about them are often the ones that are prohibited.

Biden has many LGBTQ+ people serving in prominent positions throughout government, such as Karine Jean-Pierre, the first openly gay White House press secretary. He signed legislation to protect marriage equality and lifted a ban on transgender people serving in the military.

Polls show public support for the rights of people who are gay and lesbian has expanded dramatically over the last two decades, with about 7 in 10 U.S. adults in polling by Gallup saying that same-sex marriages should be legally valid and that gay and lesbian relationships are morally acceptable.

But attitudes toward transgender people are complex: In polls conducted in 2022 by KFF and the Washington Post and by the Pew Research Center, majorities said they support laws prohibiting discrimination against transgender people in areas such as housing, jobs and schools.

At the same time, both polls found that a majority of Americans think that whether someone is a man or a woman is determined by sex assigned at birth.

Many also support restrictive policies aimed at people who are transgender, for example preventing transgender women and girls from participating in sports teams matching their gender identity, along with restrictions on access to certain medical treatments.

Superville writes for the Associated Press. AP writers Emily Swanson in Washington and Hannah Schoenbaum in Raleigh, N.C., contributed to this report.

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Researchers look into why L.A. hasn't had big quake

BRIAN VAN DER BRUG Los Angeles Times

THE SALTON SEA, seen from the Desert Shores community, is a fraction of its ancient predecessor, Lake Cahuilla. Scientists say historically large earthquakes occurred when the lake was filling up or at a peak level.

[**Salton Sea,** from A1]
about 300 years.

That's an unusually long gap. Other sections of the San Andreas have ruptured more recently. A section between Monterey County and San Bernardino County ruptured 166 years ago, and another portion ruptured in the great San Francisco earthquake 117 years ago.

In this southernmost section of the San Andreas, there have been seven major earthquakes between the 10th and 18th centuries. Some were probably separated by only a 40- or 50-year gap. For others, the gaps were probably as long as 280 years.

But it's been about three centuries — sometime between 1721 and 1731 — since a temblor that was at least a magnitude 7 struck the southernmost section of the San Andreas.

"Yet we know that this portion of the fault has accumulated enough tectonic strain to produce such an event," said Ryley G. Hill, a doctoral candidate in geophysics at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and San Diego State who was lead author of the study. "And so this area actually poses the largest seismic hazard in all of California because it could severely damage the Los Angeles metropolitan area."

A plausible earthquake that begins at the Salton Sea and ruptures through Palm Springs, continuing to Los Angeles County, is known as the ShakeOut scenario. That envisions a magnitude 7.8 earthquake that could result in 1,800 deaths and nearly 50,000 injuries — the deadliest quake in modern Southern California history. More than 1,000 of those deaths could occur in L.A. County alone.

So what could explain this unusually long quiet period?

Before the Salton Sea began to form in 1905 — the result of both human and natural causes — the low-lying Salton Trough, which sits below sea level, cycled over thousands of years between filling with water from the Colorado River and drying out.

The ancient predecessor to the Salton Sea is now referred to as Lake Cahuilla, which, when full, was 40 times larger in volume than its modern-day remnant. Lake Cahuilla was so vast that it stretched from the Coachella Valley south into Mexico and from as far west as Plaster City, Calif., to as far east as the Chocolate Mountains, according to study co-author Thomas Rockwell, a professor of geology at San Diego State.

A full Lake Cahuilla reached an elevation of about 40 feet above sea level, with a maximum depth of more than 300 feet before it started to spill again. By contrast, the Salton Sea currently reaches a height of about 240 feet below sea level, and with a maximum depth of about 50 feet.

Researchers found a pattern of Colorado River waters pouring into Lake Cahuilla and accompanying large earthquakes before the lake periodically dried up. Lake Cahuilla is believed to have been full six times in the last millennium: roughly the periods of 930 to 966, 1007 to 1070, 1192 to 1241, 1486 to 1503, 1618 to 1636, and 1731 to 1733.

"By looking at the earthquake history, and its relationship to the lakes, we realize that most of the earthquakes have occurred when a lake was present," Rockwell said.

Of the seven major quakes researchers found, six occurred when Lake Cahuilla either was filling up or was at a peak level.

"Although previous studies were inconclusive about the temporal correlation of the earthquakes and lake episodes over the past millennium, the new earthquake history strongly suggests that all lake-filling events were accompanied by large earthquakes," the study said. "Such a correlation between the earthquake and lake timings is probably not coincidental."

The central reason why earthquakes occur remains the same: Strain has accumulated for decades or centuries because of tectonic plate movement, and the fault suddenly ruptures. Such a quake would've inevitably happened whether Lake Cahuilla was there or not. But its periodic refilling may have been the tipping point that triggered earthquakes when they did occur.

The decline of the Salton Sea, however, does not mean Southern California will forever be protected against a San Andreas earthquake as long as that area is desiccating.

"The idea that letting the Salton Sea dry up will keep us safe from earthquakes is definitely the wrong takeaway," said Belle Philibosian, a research geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey who wasn't affiliated with the study.

"Even if this ancient Lake Cahuilla or the Salton Sea never existed, these earthquakes would still eventually have happened anyway. They just happened a little bit sooner than they otherwise would have, due to the influence of the filling and emptying of the lakes over time," Philibosian said. "Even if the Salton Sea dries up completely, that next southern San Andreas earthquake is still going to happen. And we still need to be prepared for it."

Scientists have also noticed other examples in which the filling of reservoirs brought earthquake faults closer to failure, possibly advancing temblors, the study said. A report published in 1997 noted that seismicity "is likely to be more widespread and deeper for a larger reservoir than for a smaller one."

One documented example, cited in a study published in 1988, involved the Koyna dam in western India. The reservoir behind the dam began to fill in 1962; five years later, a magnitude 6.2 earthquake struck, resulting in damage to the dam and a nearby town, and 200 people were killed.

More recently, some scientists have suggested the filling of the Zipingpu reservoir in China could plausibly have helped advance the timing of the devastating magnitude 7.9 earthquake in Sichuan in 2008, which killed more than 69,000 people. It's unclear whether the new reservoir directly triggered the initial rupture of that quake. But scientists suggested it could have helped a small rupture along the fault to trigger larger ruptures elsewhere.

In addition, earthquakes have been associated with the injection, deep underground, of wastewater — left over from fracking operations to extract oil and natural gas. Such activities increase something called pore pressure — essentially, increasing the fluids between the grains of a rock.

"So if you have a rock and you fully saturate it with water, the pore pressure in it will increase due to the fluid inside it," Hill said. And that weakens the earthquake fault, making it more likely to rupture.

Increasing pore pressure is similar to turning on an air hockey table, Hill said. Low pore pressure would be like trying to nudge the puck when the table is off — it's harder, but you can still move it. Higher pore pressure would be like when the table is on, meaning it's much easier for the puck to move when given the same amount of push.

"That's exactly what the lake is doing. ... It's basically unclamping" the two sides of the fault, making them easier to move, resulting in an earthquake, Hill said.

That there isn't a massive Lake Cahuilla in this part of California anymore could mean more seismic strain is accumulating before it could rupture in a quake. That could make it possible for a larger magnitude event when an earthquake actually occurs.

"We could potentially have a much larger event, because more stress could be released," Hill said.

The last big earthquake in this area on the San Andreas caused one part of the fault to move past the other by 12 to 14 feet, making it a likely magnitude 7.3 or 7.4 earthquake. Rockwell said he expected the next one to be larger because it will have been at least 300 years since the last quake, with one side of the fault potentially moving past the other by 16 feet or so, or making it a magnitude 7.5.

An open question is how much farther the San Andreas would rupture. Rarely, earthquakes from this area will rupture the fault not only through the Salton Trough and Coachella Valley regions, but propagate farther north, toward Riverside and San Bernardino.

"So one of the big questions is, if we have a large earthquake, will it potentially cascade to the north and produce an even larger earthquake," going through Los Angeles County and potentially all the way to the southern edge of Monterey County, Rockwell said.

The forming of the Salton Sea at the turn of the last century was small in comparison to the flows that previously filled ancient Lake Cahuilla. Nonetheless, the rapid increase of water flow into the newly forming body of water may have helped trigger a magnitude 6.1 earthquake in Brawley on April 18, 1906, Hill said. Scientists have previously suggested that quake was distantly triggered by the great 1906 San Francisco earthquake, which occurred 11 hours after the event in Northern California.

The Salton Sea has long been fed by Colorado River water draining from the farmlands in the Imperial Valley. The lake has been shrinking since the early 2000s, when the local irrigation district began transferring a portion of its water to urban areas. Its water is now about twice as salty as the ocean and continues to get saltier with evaporation, a shift that has caused major declines in fish and bird populations.

Based on current trends, the lake is projected to continue shrinking in the coming years. Along the retreating shorelines, state officials have been working on projects to control dust and build wetlands to provide wildlife habitat.

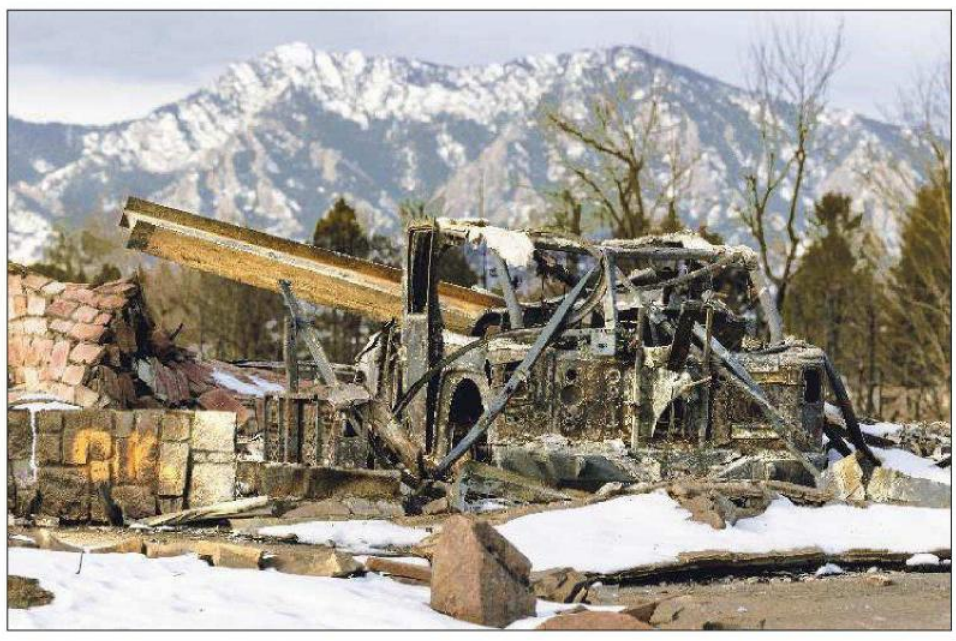
A state-appointed panel last year recommended against the idea of importing seawater to stop the Salton Sea from shrinking. The panel concluded that California shouldn't pursue such a plan, citing costs estimated in the tens of billions of dollars, harm to the coastal environment and a construction timeline that would take many years before any water would reach the lake.

Advocates of importing water to the Salton Sea have strongly criticized the panel's conclusions, arguing the analysis was faulty.

Times staff writer Ian James contributed to this report.

Embers played key role in deadly Colorado blaze in 2021

By Jesse Bedayn, Colleen Slevin and Mead Gruver



MICHAEL CIAGLO Getty Images

A CHARRED vehicle in Louisville, Colo., after the Marshall fire in 2021 destroyed nearly 1,100 homes and killed two people. No criminal charges were filed.

BOULDER, Colo. — Embers from a smoldering scrap wood fire set days earlier outside a home used by a Christian communal group along with a sparking power line caused a 2021 Colorado wildfire that destroyed nearly 1,100 homes and left two people dead, authorities said Thursday.

Authorities investigated for 18 months and determined criminal charges were not warranted for either the Twelve Tribes that occupied the home or the utility in charge of the power line, Boulder County Dist. Atty. Michael Dougherty said at a news conference.

"If we were to tell you today we are filing charges, it would be wrong and unethical," Dougherty said.

The Dec. 30, 2021, blaze in the heavily populated suburbs between Denver and Boulder caused $2 billion in damage, making the Marshall fire the most destructive in Colorado history. Two people were also found dead.

The inferno erupted after months of drought amid a winter nearly devoid of snow, and fed on bone-dry grassland surrounding fast-growing development in the area near the Rocky Mountain foothills. It spread rapidly in wind gusts of up to 100 mph in places.

For one woman who lost her home and watched the news conference, seeing photos and hearing about the fire again were almost as difficult as the disaster's immediate aftermath.

"On top of trying figure out how it started, all this just stirs up all the same emotions. It makes you nauseous in re-remembering everything," Barba Hickman said.

Experts say similar events will become more common as climate change warms the planet and suburbs grow in fire-prone areas.

The scrap wood fire — buried by residents Dec. 24 in a manner approved by firefighters who stopped by that day to investigate — was one cause when the powerful winds uncovered the buried embers six days later, Sheriff Curtis Johnson said.

"Once they realized there was a fire and it was spreading, they attempted to put it out, but the winds were quickly spreading the flames faster than they could put it out," said Johnson, who lost his home in the blaze and teared up during the news conference.

A loose Xcel Energy power line caused a separate fire less than half a mile away around the same time, Johnson said.

The two fires combined to cause the massively destructive blaze.

Xcel Energy objected to the findings of the investigation, contending that it didn't have a chance to review what the company called "flawed" analyses.

"We strongly disagree with any suggestion that Xcel Energy's power lines caused the second ignition," spokesman Tyler Bryant said in a statement. "We operate and maintain our electric system consistent with leading energy service practices."

A worker at a Boulder deli run by the Twelve Tribes declined to comment or give their name Thursday when the Associated Press visited the restaurant. Members of the group — a Christian community thought to have 2,000 to 3,000 members worldwide — have repeatedly declined to discuss the 2021 blaze.

The fire that destroyed swaths of houses in Superior and Louisville, neighboring towns about 20 miles northwest of Denver, is blamed for the death of a 69-year-old man who lived near where investigators believed the fire started. The remains of a 91-year-old woman, who was last seen trying to rescue her dogs from her home in Superior, were also found.

Thousands of residents were at home the day before New Year's Eve and used the area's extensive road network to escape amid smoke, flames and blowing embers, which spread the fire in the wind. Shifting winds caused the skies to turn from clear to smoky and then back again in an area filled with middle- and upper-middle-class subdivisions surrounded by shopping centers, parks and schools.

As smoke filled the parking lot of a Costco warehouse store and debris whirled around, a sheriff's deputy ordered people inside to leave their carts, evacuate the sprawling building and head toward Denver, away from the fire. Within hours, it destroyed 1,084 homes and seven commercial buildings, and damaged nearly 200 structures.

Old coal mines that smoldered underground in the area could not be ruled out as a factor in the fire but were not deemed to be part of the cause, investigators said.

The area includes an abandoned coal field where two underground fires, fueled by coal deposits, have slowly burned over the years.

The fire, which spanned 9.4 square miles, ranks as the most destructive in state history in terms of homes and other structures destroyed and damaged. The second-most destructive fire erupted in 2013 outside Colorado Springs, destroying 489 homes and killing two.

A lawsuit filed against Minneapolis-based Xcel Energy, Colorado's largest utility, alleged that sparks from a power line started the blaze. It says witnesses saw a fire igniting near a power line in the area identified by investigators, with one witness videotaping sparks flying from a malfunctioning power line and igniting a fire on the ground.

Hickman's husband expressed frustration the fire's cause wasn't pinned down more definitively.

"It doesn't really provide any answers that help us. I guess I don't know. It kind of leaves it open in my mind," Rex Hickman said.

The Hickmans said they might be interested in joining litigation against Xcel to try to recover costs. For now, they have been settling down in Charlottesville, Va., where they built a home using insurance money. They plan to sell their vacant lot in Colorado.

"We were looking to get away from the fires in the West, and I have asthma pretty badly. The constant fires every summer is one of the reasons for us moving on," Barba Hickman said.

The investigation took a long time for what was announced, but the decision not to pursue criminal charges seems appropriate, said Barney Thinnes, a homeowner who has had to rebuild.

"I'm with the sheriff. I just want to move forward with the whole thing," he said.

Bedayn, Slevin and Gruver write for the Associated Press.

Trump's lawyers confirm federal indictment

[**Trump,** from A1]
government records in the White House's possession must be turned over to the National Archives and Records Administration by the day a president leaves office.

Archives staff quickly questioned why some materials were not received from Trump in January 2021, prompting a months-long negotiation with the former president and his staff and resulting in the return of over 15 boxes of material in January 2022, including nearly 200 documents that were marked as classified.

Archives officials notified the Justice Department about the classified materials, and officials sought a subpoena demanding that Trump return any other classified material in his possession. Trump's legal team produced about three dozen additional documents and a letter stating that a diligent search had turned up nothing more.

The FBI had information indicating more classified records might be in the former president's possession, and secured a warrant to search Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida last August. More than 100 additional documents labeled classified and top-secret were found.

Special counsel Jack Smith was appointed in November by U.S. Atty. Gen. Merrick Garland to oversee the classified documents investigation and another probe scrutinizing Trump's actions in his effort to remain in office after losing the 2020 presidential election to Joe Biden.

A spokesman for the special counsel declined to comment. It would be unusual for Smith, a tight-lipped adherent to protocol, to speak publicly before an arraignment.

Federal grand juries have been meeting about the documents investigation in both Washington, D.C., and Florida, and it is unclear whether a second set of charges are coming as part of the inquiry. While bringing at least some of the charges in southern Florida is seen as an attempt to head off challenges over venue, it may increase the possibility that the case could land before a Trump-appointed judge.

Trump had luck in that regard early in the investigation, when he challenged the FBI search before Florida District Judge Aileen Cannon, whom he appointed. Cannon's decision to appoint a special master to review materials taken in the search delayed the investigation for several weeks.

Reports in recent weeks fueled speculation that an indictment was imminent. According to news reports, Trump is heard acknowledging in an audio recording of a summer 2021 meeting that he retained a classified Pentagon document after leaving office. His lawyers have reportedly been unable to find that document, which related to military planning for confronting Iran.

Other reporting indicated that Trump and his aides may have obstructed efforts to retrieve security camera video, and that the special counsel's team has been asking witnesses about potential damage from the flooding of a room where computer servers containing video surveillance logs were stored.

Garland has adhered to precedent and not overruled Smith's charging decision.

Smith's decision adds to the mounting legal challenges Trump faces heading into the 2024 presidential election.

In March, he was indicted in New York City on 34 felony charges related to an alleged hush-money payment made to porn actor Stormy Daniels in the final days of the 2016 campaign. It marked the first time in history that a former U.S. president has been criminally prosecuted.

In addition to Smith's concurrent investigation into efforts by Trump and his allies to overturn the 2020 election, Fulton County, Ga. Dist. Atty. Fani Willis is leading a criminal probe related to Trump's alleged efforts to convince Georgia officials to change results there.

In a four-minute video posted on Truth Social, Trump called the indictment "election interference" and an extension of previous probes, including the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election.

Several prominent Republicans quickly echoed his language in statements of support.

"I, and every American who believes in the rule of law, stand with President Trump against this grave injustice," House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield) said in a statement. "House Republicans will hold this brazen weaponization of power accountable."

Those efforts appear to have already begun. Earlier this week, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) demanded that the Justice Department hand over documents detailing the scope of Smith's authority and investigations.

Burbank Democratic Rep. Adam B. Schiff, who played prominent roles in both of Trump's impeachments, tweeted that Thursday's indictment was an "affirmation of the rule of law." He also derided the GOP threat to have Congress interfere in an ongoing criminal case.

"For four years, he acted like he was above the law," Schiff tweeted, referring to Trump. "But he should be treated like any other lawbreaker. And today, he has been."

The legal challenges are expected to complicate Trump's campaign. The judge presiding over his New York criminal trial has ordered Trump to be present during the proceedings, which are scheduled to start in March 2024.

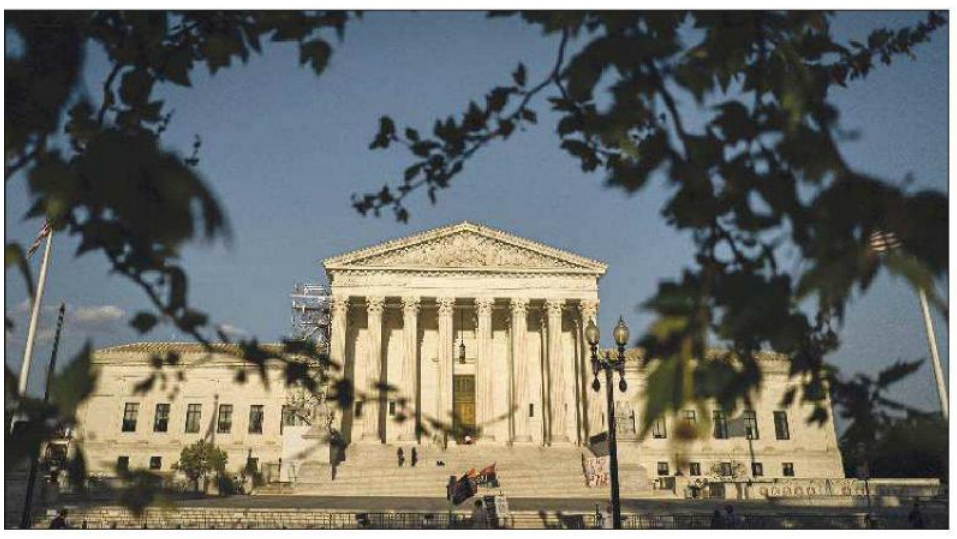
Last fall, the handling of classified documents became an unexpected flashpoint ahead of the 2024 presidential campaign with the news that President Biden and former Vice President Mike Pence — who joined the race on Monday — had both discovered they still possessed classified records from their time in the vice president's office.

Those instances stand apart from the Trump case because both men voluntarily turned the documents over to the Justice Department upon their discovery.

On June 1, the Justice Department informed Pence it was closing its investigation into his handling of classified documents without filling charges. Garland appointed a special counsel in January to review Biden's handling of classified documents; that investigation is ongoing.

CHARLIE NEIBERGALL Associated Press

FORMER PRESIDENT TRUMP railed at the Biden administration Thursday over his indictment in what he called "the Boxes Hoax," proclaiming his innocence. Here, he greets supporters in Des Moines last week.



KENT NISHIMURA Los Angeles Times

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT voted 5 to 4 to uphold the Voting Rights Act, a ruling that could have an impact on elections in several Southern states.

In surprise, Supreme Court upholds Voting Rights Act

[**Voting rights,** from A1]
pact and "reasonably configured" district that a Black candidate could win.

Joining Roberts to affirm that decision were Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, Brett M. Kavanaugh and Ketanji Brown Jackson.

Thursday's ruling in Allen vs. Milligan could have significant political impact, particularly across the South, from Georgia and Florida to Texas.

These Republican-led states have resisted drawing more voting districts that would probably result in the election of more Democrats. The court's ruling will bolster legal claims that these election maps deny fair representation for Black or Latino people.

Given how closely divided the House of Representatives is, the decision could even shift control of the chamber, said David Wasserman, the U.S. House expert at the nonpartisan Cook Political Report. In addition to Alabama, new district lines could be drawn in Louisiana, South Carolina and Georgia and lead to the "creation of 2-4 new Black-majority districts, netting [Democrats] 2-4 seats," he tweeted.

The decision also applies to election districts for state legislatures, county boards and city councils.

Voting rights advocates hailed the ruling as a major victory, not because it expanded the law but because a conservative high court voted to preserve it.

Alabama Republicans had argued it was unconstitutional to draw new districts along racial lines.

The National Redistricting Foundation, an affiliate of the National Democratic Redistricting Committee, called the decision a "massive win for voting and for voters across the country. Black voters in Alabama have long been denied fair representation — and today's Supreme Court decision in favor of voters marks a landmark moment to move the needle in the right direction," said Marina Jenkins, the group's executive director.

The decision came as a surprise in part because Roberts has been a longtime critic of the Voting Rights Act.

As a young lawyer in the Reagan administration, he opposed the 1982 amendments on the grounds that they would lead to "proportional representation" based on race.

He also led the court 10 years ago in overturning a key provision of the Voting Rights Act that had required Alaska, Arizona, seven Southern states and certain other jurisdictions to obtain clearance from Washington before making changes in voting rules or election laws. In a 5-4 decision in Shelby County vs. Holder, Roberts said this special burden was no longer justified.

In Thursday's ruling, he said the court was not seeking to change the law but to maintain it. He said "a faithful application of our precedents and a fair reading of the record before us" shows that Alabama must draw an extra district that could elect a Black candidate.

Since the 1980s, he said, the court has held that states must draw one or more districts that favor Black or Latino candidates when certain conditions are met. Those conditions include whether there are enough Black or Latino people to make up a voting district that would be "compact" and "reasonably configured." Another factor is whether voting is "racially polarized." Lawyers said that in Alabama, no Black candidate had a chance of winning in a white-majority district.

Last year, the three-judge panel applied those standards and ruled that the state must redraw its map to create a second compact, near-majority Black district. The judges, including two appointed by former President Trump, said the Voting Rights Act required giving Black voters a meaningful opportunity to elect a representative of their choice.

But last year, in a preliminary win for the GOP, the Supreme Court blocked that decision from taking effect.

Then, Kavanaugh voted with four other conservative justices to block the creation of the new district.

But the court agreed to review the case and hear arguments on the law. Kavanaugh then cast a deciding vote to join Roberts and the court's three liberals to affirm the lower-court ruling.

Biden, Sunak pledge to stick together on backing Ukraine

British prime minister visits White House, as leaders say they'll also step up cooperation on economic security.

BY AAMER MADHANI AND SEUNG MIN KIM

WASHINGTON — President Biden and British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Thursday reiterated their commitment to help Ukraine repel Russia's ongoing invasion, while agreeing to step up cooperation on challenges their economies face with artificial intelligence, clean energy and critical minerals.

The leaders said the "first of its kind" agreement — what they are calling the "Atlantic Declaration" — will serve as a framework for the two countries on the development of emerging technologies, protecting technology that is critical to national security and other economic security issues.

"We will put our values front and center," Biden said as the two leaders started talks in the Oval Office. He later added at a joint news conference that the agreement will help both nations "adapt and upgrade our partnership to ensure our countries remain on the cutting edge of a rapidly changing world."

As part of the declaration announced Thursday, the two sides will kick off negotiations on the use of minerals from the U.K. that are critical in the production of electric vehicles that are eligible for U.S. tax credits. The administration has also opened talks with the European Union and forged a deal with Japan that allow certain critical raw materials for EVs to be treated as if they were sourced in the United States.

Allies have raised concerns about incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act favoring the North American auto industry. The legislation — one of Biden's key policy victories — invests some $375 billion to transition the United States to cleaner cars and energy sources.

Biden and Sunak have already had four meetings since Sunak became prime minister in October, but the talks in Washington offered the two leaders a chance for their most sustained interaction to date.

Sunak reflected on the significant conversations their respective predecessors have had over the years in the Oval Office and acknowledged that he and Biden were facing their own daunting moment. The visit to Washington is Sunak's first since becoming Britain's prime minister in October.

"Our economies are seeing perhaps the biggest transformation since the Industrial Revolution as new technologies provide incredible opportunities, but also give our adversaries more tools," Sunak said.

The 15-month-old Russian invasion of Ukraine was high on the agenda. The U.S. and U.K. are the two biggest donors to the Ukraine war effort and play a central role in a long-term effort announced last month to train, and eventually equip, Ukrainian pilots on F-16 fighter jets.

Biden reiterated confidence that Congress would continue to provide Ukraine funding as needed despite some hesitation among Republican leaders at the growing cost of the war for American taxpayers.

"The U.S. and the U.K. have stood together to support Ukraine," Biden said at the start of their meeting.

Sunak also made the case to Biden for U.K. Defense Minister Ben Wallace to succeed departing NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, who is set to end his term leading the 31-member alliance in September. Stoltenberg is slated to meet with Biden in Washington on Monday, and leaders from the alliance are set to gather in Lithuania on July 11-12 for their annual summit.

Asked if it was time for a U.K. leader for NATO, Biden said "it may be" but "that remains to be seen."

"We're going to have to get a consensus within NATO," he said.

Biden also reflected that the two countries have worked through some of the toughest moments in modern history side by side, recalling the meetings that Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt held in the White House.

"You know Prime Minister Churchill and Roosevelt met here a little over 70 years ago and they asserted that the strength of the partnership between Great Britain and the United States was the strength of the free world," Biden told Sunak. "I still think there's truth to that assertion."

Sunak is keen to make the U.K. a key player in artificial intelligence, and announced that his government will gather politicians, scientists and tech executives for a summit on AI safety in the fall.

He said it was vital to ensure that "paradigm-shifting new technologies" are harnessed for the good of humanity.

"No one country can do this alone," Sunak said Wednesday. "This is going to take a global effort."

Biden said the challenges that come with the advancement of AI technology are "staggering."

"It is a limitless capacity and possibility, but we have to do it with great care," said Biden, who added that he welcomed the U.K.'s leadership on the issue.

Sunak's visit comes as U.S. and British intelligence officials are still trying to sort out blame for the breaching of a major dam in southern Ukraine, which sent floodwaters gushing through towns and over farmland. Neither Washington nor London has officially accused Russia of blowing up the Kakhovka hydroelectric dam.

Sunak said Wednesday that U.K. intelligence services are still assessing the evidence, but "if it does prove to be intentional, it will represent a new low ... an appalling barbarism on Russia's part."

"Russia throughout this war has used as a deliberate active strategy to target civilian infrastructure," he told broadcaster ITV in Washington.

The two sides looked to demonstrate that the U.S.-U.K. relationship remains as strong as ever despite recent political and economic upheaval in the U.K.

Madhani and Kim write for the Associated Press. AP writers Jill Lawless in London and Matthew Lee in Washington contributed to this report.

BUSINESS

Times editor is grilled by staffers over 73 layoffs

Kevin Merida tells employees the paper was facing a budget hole of 'tens of millions of dollars.'

By Meg James

David Livingston Getty Images

"WE'LL BE LOSING a lot of very valuable people and that's just really hard to take," Times Executive Editor Kevin Merida, shown last year, said Thursday.

Facing a raw and angry staff stunned by the announcement of 73 layoffs, Los Angeles Times Executive Editor Kevin Merida on Thursday accepted responsibility for making "really difficult decisions" that led to dramatic cuts to the newsroom.

The organization is cutting photojournalists, longtime copy editors, news desk editors who help oversee the paper's digital report and audience engagement editors. Audio producers were let go, as were a library researcher and several respected managers, including two stalwarts in the Spanish-language Times en Español digital news operation.

"It's terrible. I feel awful about it but when you're a leader you have moments like this," Merida told more than 550 members of the paper's staff during a Zoom meeting. "We'll be losing a lot of very valuable people and that's just really hard to take. It's hard for me, too."

The cuts represent the first significant belt-tightening since Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong and his wife, Michele, paid $500 million to rescue The Times and the San Diego Union-Tribune from Chicago-based Tribune Publishing five years ago. Since then, the Soon-Shiong family has invested tens of millions of dollars in The Times to bolster its journalism and cover revenue shortfalls that have continued each year during their stewardship.

The Times was making strides toward its profitability goals until COVID-19 pandemic closures in 2020 decimated advertising.

This week's job cuts unfolded against a broader backdrop of a newspaper industry in an existential crisis that has prompted dozens of newspapers to fold. Newspapers are starving for advertising revenue, which is being raked in by internet giants, including Google, Facebook and TikTok.

Although The Times doesn't make its finances public, Merida said that the operation still relies heavily on revenue generated from its printed newspaper at a time of steady print subscriber declines.

And digital revenue has fallen well short of the levels needed to sustain the largest newsroom in the Western U.S.

Merida said The Times was facing a budget gap of "tens of millions of dollars," which prompted the decision to cut dozens of staff members.

"How can we figure out how to make our business self-sustaining, which is what we have to do," Merida said. "We're dealing with structural problems in our industry and holes that cannot be easily filled."

The nearly two-hour session was tense.

Members of the newsroom union, Los Angeles Times Guild, already frustrated by the lack of progress in negotiating a new labor agreement to replace the one that expired in November, said they felt betrayed that management opted for layoffs before first offering buyouts to encourage staff members to voluntarily depart.

"We've been evaluating the budget, in real time, since the beginning of the year, and trying to create savings, trying to do things to prevent what is happening now," Merida said. "It's on management to make that difficult decision. I want to own the toughness of that, and [not] put that on anybody else."

There was deep dismay that managers — who have been under fire for years over their level of commitment to newsroom diversity — had proposed cutting so many people of color.

The departures include 34 white people and 39 people of color: 19 Latino people, 11 Asian American people, four Black people and five employees who identify as two or more races.

"This is a setback for us," Merida acknowledged, noting that management was forced to follow the rules of the labor contract, which requires that layoffs be based on seniority.

"Diversity is always important. We need to look at it in every context of our work.... That's been a lifelong commitment for me, throughout my entire journalism career," he said.

Merida joined The Times two years ago after several years at ESPN, running the award-winning division formerly known as The Undefeated that plumbed the intersection of race, culture and sports.

He spent more than two decades as a respected reporter then senior editor at the Washington Post, which he grew up reading as a youth in Maryland.

Staff members were upset about the number of Asian American and Latino employees who were let go. The paper's only two Spanish-speaking photojournalists were initially included in the cuts, which would have left the photo department without a fluent Spanish speaker in a region that is more than 50% Latino. Late Thursday, after an unidentified manager volunteered to leave, one of the Spanish-speaking photographers was reinstated.

Reporters — viewed as the beating heart of the organization — were largely spared. So were the senior-most editors who make up the newspaper's so-called masthead. Several reporters wondered why a few of the newsroom's top earners were not included.

"No one from the masthead?" asked investigative reporter Matt Hamilton. "The masthead is the biggest that it's been since I worked here."

During the meeting, reporters expressed frustration over Merida's responses to multiple questions, which they felt didn't go far enough or were evasive.

"Kevin, you said in your letter that you want us to be a next-generation digital powerhouse," said Arit John, a national reporter based in Washington. "But how do we do that with ... no audio team, with a decimated audience team and a skeleton crew on the copy desk? These are critical roles."

Merida responded that not all copy editors or news desk or audience team members were cut, and that there would still be people filling those roles.

The Times gave the 56 guild members 30-day notices. During the next two weeks, staff members not on the list of layoffs can volunteer to take a buyout, which would spare a colleague on the list for the cuts.

But for more than a dozen non-guild members who received termination notices, Wednesday was their last day.

Some speakers became emotional, including journalist Ameera Butt, who was part of the news desk team overseeing the website 24/7 and handling news alerts.

She said that she was working an overnight shift last year in the days leading up to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and made a speedy decision to publish a story to keep readers informed. She said her team was integral to making the internet operation more vital to readers.

"I feel incredibly disappointed in management," Butt said. "It's been awful. It's been blindsiding, it's been a shock because I personally love the L.A. Times and I loved working for you guys and ... that's gone."

Merida told her that he was sorry.

"Sorry doesn't work in this situation," Butt said.

After the meeting, Merida acknowledged "it has been a difficult two days for our newsroom. I still love our place. Every day, I plan to come to work and do the best I can as a leader."

LIV-PGA merger tees up latest example of 'sportswashing'

By Samantha Masunaga

Suhaimi Abdullah Getty Images

PHIL MICKELSON, LIV Golf's most famous member, plays in a tournament in Singapore in April. Will the LIV-PGA merger help improve Saudi Arabia's image?

Sometimes sports isn't just about sports.

For decades, athletic events have been used to launder images and reputations in a tactic called "sportswashing." Whether embraced by a company or a nation with regressive policies, sportswashing has particular allure, experts say, because it works.

That's what critics say is happening with the proposed merger between the Saudi-backed LIV Golf and PGA Tour.

The deal ends a bitter war with PGA Tour, turns LIV Golf into a major force in the sports world and furthers Saudi Arabia's efforts to expand the kingdom's revenue beyond its shrinking oil business. But the Saudis also are banking on the glamour of athletics to outshine concerns about a history of human rights abuses.

"The merger really places the Saudi government in a very unprecedented position of influence and control over the top levels of golf," said Joey Shea, Saudi Arabia researcher at Human Rights Watch. "Given the country's egregious human rights record, it's particularly concerning."

Governments and companies over the years have found that using sporting events — sponsoring a team or tour, for instance, or going all out and hosting the World Cup or the Olympics — is a particularly effective tool to paint themselves in a more flattering light while also potentially enriching their coffers through lucrative broadcast rights deals and other spending.

"Sport reaches more and different people than other communication tools," said Steve Cockburn, head of economic and social justice at Amnesty International. "A lot of people feel very deeply and connect deeply with sports."

Using sports to launder a government's image has several historical precedents. Hitler used the 1936 Olympics to build support for Nazi Germany, while Mussolini saw Italy's 1938 World Cup win as a way to galvanize support for his fascist regime.

More recently, human rights activists raised concerns about China hosting the 2008 and 2022 Olympics, despite human rights abuses against the Uyghur people in Xinjiang, or Russia hosting the 2014 Sochi Olympics after the country passed anti-LGBTQ+ legislation. Qatar's hosting of the 2022 World Cup brought similar image-scrubbing complaints.

"Sports in general is a very galvanizing event or cultural phenomenon. It brings people together," said Yoav Dubinsky, instructor of sports business at the University of Oregon's Lundquist College of Business. "Sports events are the most watched telecasts on television. TV rights are the main source of revenue for professional sports because of their popularity, which means that the eyes of the world and the eyes of fans are on the sports.

"As a byproduct, the countries or cities or states try to capitalize on that attention to show the aspects of the countries that they want to showcase."

Unlike other types of image laundering — environmental greenwashing, for instance — sportswashing taps into the deep emotional ties many fans have to their teams or sports. Some of them are former athletes. Others want to feel good about who they're cheering for and what they're spending their time on.

"There is an elasticity when it comes to sports fandoms" that makes enthusiasts more forgiving, said Jane McManus, executive director of the Center for Sports Media at Seton Hall University. "You find a way to create a clarity in your own mind about what you're able to cheer for and, oftentimes ... you're not as concerned about this particular issue."

For governments, the investment in leagues or individual teams, such as the Saudi Public Investment Fund's purchase of Newcastle United, is negligible, experts said. The increased foray into sports is a show of strength and diplomacy, a use of soft power.

"These are trophy investments," Cockburn said. "What they're gaining is a huge cultural investment, loyalty from certain groups of the population and loyalty from politicians who don't want to see that investment go away."

Getting more involved in sports can be a double-edged sword for countries with a record of human rights violations. More involvement can lead to more scrutiny of their past record on human rights, but at the same time, it can also allow for more opportunity to showcase desirable parts of a regime.

"The collaboration with the PGA now gives the Saudis a kosher stamp as a legitimate business partner in the U.S.," said Dubinsky of the University of Oregon.

It's unclear whether Saudi Arabia's increased presence in golf will allow the country to remake its image. In a poll conducted last year by Seton Hall University, 43% of "general population" respondents said the Saudi-backed LIV Golf looked like "sportswashing," with that percentage increasing to 52% among "avid fans."

"You've seen a lot of resistance to LIV Golf among the fan base," McManus of Seton Hall said. "I don't know which values are going to play out more: the value of tradition or the value of money."

Local ports prepare to manage delays as labor rift widens

By Laura Curtis

Carolyn Cole Los Angeles Times

WEST COAST ports are enduring the longest labor strife since 2015. Above, at the Port of L.A. in 2021.

Most container ships through the biggest import gateway in the U.S. face delays as labor-related disruptions widen on the West Coast and threaten another cargo logjam.

"Basically every container vessel is having their schedule pushed back by about a day or two," Richard Palmer of the Marine Exchange of Southern California said in an emailed operations update.

He said the main reason he's seen is a lack of "lashers," or longshore workers who secure containers aboard ships.

Palmer said that agents for 10 of the vessels attributed the delays to a shortage of workers, and that some agencies didn't want to comment on the labor situation or didn't specify a reason for the delay.

U.S. West Coast ports are enduring the longest labor strife since 2015 as talks between port employers and dockworkers approach a full year without a contract. Ships thrown off schedule can have ripple effects at other ports along their routes.

Labor shortages that started last week caused some terminals on the West Coast to close. Since then there have been intermittent disruptions at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

The previous labor contract covering 29 ports from California to Washington state expired July 1.

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union, representing 22,000 dockworkers, and the Pacific Maritime Assn., which represents ocean carriers and terminal operators, have been negotiating since May 2022.

The ILWU declined to comment on the delays.

Eight container ships were backed up and as many as 31 scheduled to arrive within the next week were delayed a day or two, according to officials who monitor maritime traffic around the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

The snarls evoke a crisis that began in October 2020 with a backup of five vessels. Container ships laden with goods from Asia destined for consumers stuck at home overwhelmed the capacity of the ports, as well as the inland supply chain.

That queue reached 40 vessels by the following February before peaking at 109 in January 2022. The backup was cleared in November 2022 as trade volumes on the transpacific ocean lane plummeted and has remained clear since then.

Even if the congestion continues to worsen, it's unlikely to cause the same gridlock and air pollution seen during the worst of the pandemic because a protocol remains in place, said Kip Louttit, executive director of the Marine Exchange of Southern California.

"We anticipate that container ships will not cram into our waters and will follow the new queuing system for labor protocols once again as they did before," he said in an email Wednesday night.

Because the queuing system activated during the pandemic remains in place, ships that don't have a berthing time within three days of their arrival will wait offshore in a safety and air quality area, Louttit said.

"We dealt with 55 ships anchored plus 62 loitering in our waters once before and can do it again," he said.

The White House, which has authority to prevent an economy-crippling port strike, said this week that President Biden respects the collective bargaining process and that the administration wants both sides to stay at the negotiating table until a deal is reached.

Curtis writes for Bloomberg.

Measures taken to lower horse deaths in racing

[**Horse deaths,** from A1] the track where, if things are good, it goes back to its barn. If not, the horse goes to the equine medical center. That is, if it even makes it that far.

For those in attendance, that's it. End of story. If you are in California or New York, you can check a website to see the outcome. If you are in Kentucky, Florida, Maryland or one of the other 30-plus states that host racing, you might never hear a word.

Finally, through social media or the racetrack grapevine, you might learn the horse was euthanized. The horse didn't look that bad. It walked on to the ambulance. If a person walks into an emergency room, there is a good chance he or she is walking out. Race horses rarely walk into an ER, much less walk out.

How can this be? Why can't more horses be saved?

::

Horse racing finds itself jumping from one crisis to another.

This week the Belmont Stakes has been put on a temporary hold because of the air quality in New York. If the wind shifts direction and redistributes all the smoke from the Canadian wildfires, which is expected, the race will go on. If not, the third leg of racing's Triple Crown might have to be postponed.

Not all the crises are so short term.

During a 15-week period in 2011 and 2012, 21 horses died at Aqueduct in New York and an investigation was launched. Reforms were made. The sport was made better.

In 2019, 30 horses died at Santa Anita and an investigation was launched. Reforms were made. The sport was made better.

This year, 12 horses died at Churchill Downs. An investigation was launched. Racing was moved to another track in Kentucky. But, not before two more race cards were run and training was allowed to continue, still to this day.

All of these incidents are a rallying cry for animal rights activists, who immediately call for an investigation, followed by a plea that the sport be banned everywhere. They have made little headway except in the area of public awareness.

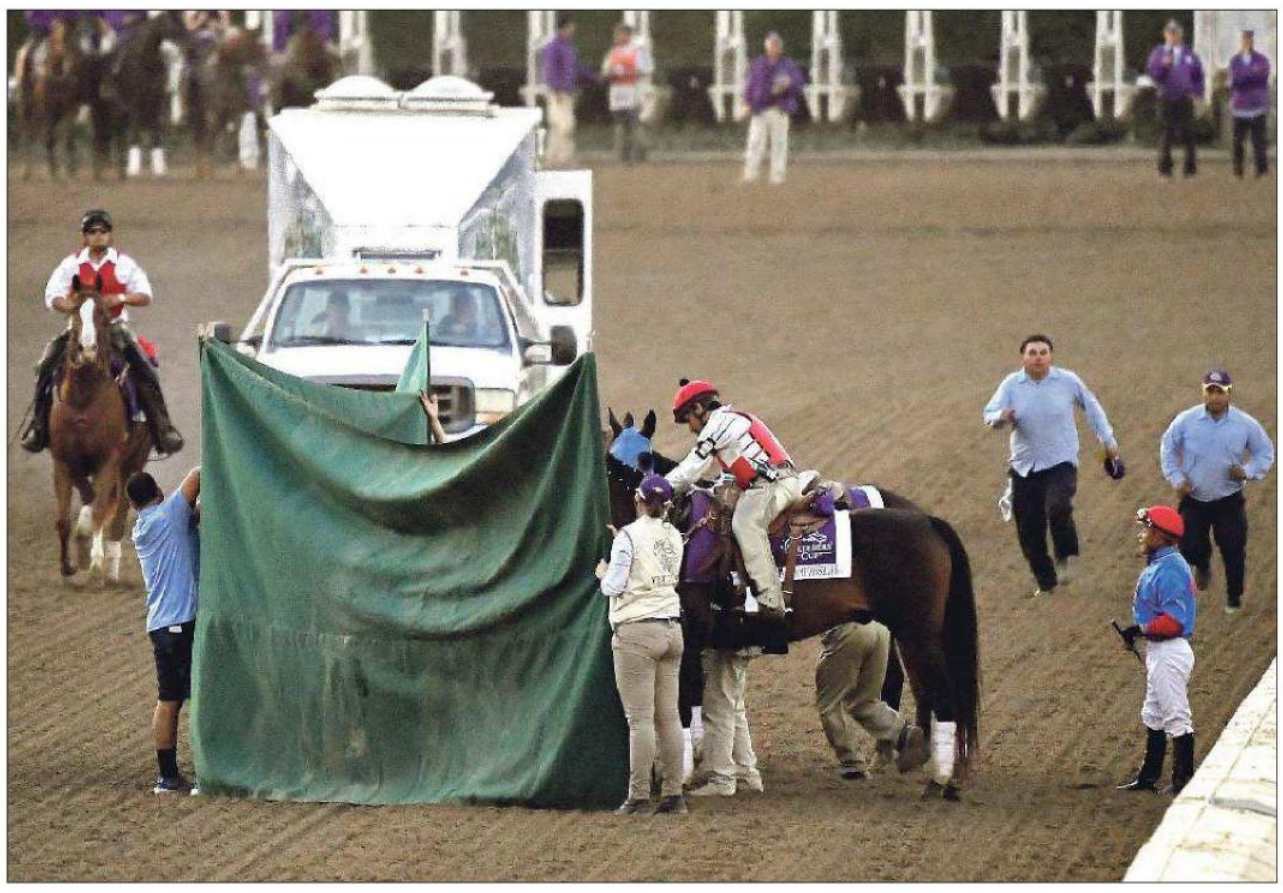
At the height of the Santa Anita crisis, activists pushed for the Los Angeles district attorney to conduct a criminal investigation, which, nine months later, found no criminal animal cruelty or unlawful conduct.

These investigations rarely find a smoking gun. The word "multifactorial" is used often in explaining horse deaths.

The reason rarely given for a spike in fatalities is the horse itself.

A horse's anatomy helps explain why more horses can't be saved. It's a fact that horsemen accept but the general public struggles to understand. Everyone wants a sport with no deaths, but those within horse racing know the goal is unattainable.

If you had a table with four legs, spindly legs that become narrower the closer they are to the ground, imagine if the tabletop were 1,000 pounds. Then consider the impact if you lost use of one of those legs, even temporarily, and the pressure it would put on the other three.



MARK J. TERRILL Associated Press

WHEN A SCREEN goes up after a horse is injured at a racetrack, it's usually not a good sign. In this instance, Mongolian Groom is treated by workers after the Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa Anita in November 2019.

> 'Over time nobody wants to see any horse suffer or in pain. ... The decision is what is that horse's quality of life going to be.'
>
> — DR. JEFF BLEA, equine medical director of the California Horse Racing Board

"You have risks that are unique to the horse as opposed to a human," said Dr. Jeff Blea, equine medical director of the California Horse Racing Board. "With a person, you can say, 'You've got a fractured bone, we're going to put you in traction and keep you in bed for a few weeks or months.' With the horse, we can't do that. They don't tolerate that well."

Blea separates fractures into two categories, neither with a particularly good outcome.

"If it's an open fracture, where the fracture has penetrated the skin and the bone is exposed, your prognosis rapidly decreases due to infection because you are running on a dirt surface," Blea said. "Another factor you have to consider depending on the injury, especially to the distal limb [below the knee and hock], is blood flow and nerve innervation.

"An injury that disrupts the blood flow of that injury, regardless of surgical intervention, will not heal. And that horse will suffer. An injury where the blood flow is disrupted or eliminated, those have a much reduced chance of success as well."

Unlike a human, when a horse is injured, it often will keep on running. It's the horse's instinct and often leads to a catastrophic complication.

"With shoulder injuries or humeral [upper limb] stress fractures, those are difficult to save because you have a four-legged animal that you can't say, 'Stay in bed until this heals.' They are moving around, and given their respiratory system, when they tend to be stagnant and unable to move, there is greater risk of pneumonia," Blea said.

"And when they are unable to move, they are also at a higher risk of colic [abdominal pain symptomatic of other issues] because of the intestinal tract of a horse and how it works as an herbivore."

The short answer is a healing horse just can't stay still without risking other serious complications.

One of the most painful, and least understood, side effects in an injured or sick horse is laminitis. The tissue between the hoof and the coffin bone, the lowest bone in a horse, becomes inflamed and in some cases the two parts separate.

"There are a ton of reasons why horses get laminitis," said Dr. Ryan Carpenter, an equine surgeon based at Santa Anita. "We've learned a lot about laminitis over the years but it's still a mystery. We will still have horses succumb to laminitis today despite all the advances in technology and surgical intervention."

Laminitis was what eventually forced the euthanasia of Barbaro, the winner of the 2006 Kentucky Derby who broke down in the Preakness Stakes. The best veterinarians and surgeons in the country, using the most advanced techniques at the time, worked seven months to try to save him. In the end, it was laminitis that ended his life.

"Weight distribution is a huge deal," Blea said. "You can't change the normal distribution. It's like the four-legged stool that loses a leg; the weight is different. In a horse, if they don't have use of one of their limbs, your chance of laminitis goes way up."

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One of the most disquieting scenes at a racetrack is when a horse goes down and the emergency veterinarian crew puts up a dark screen around it so the spectators don't see what is happening.

"I never say [it's fatal] 100% of the time, but there is high likelihood if the screen goes up, they are trying to address the issue at the time," Blea said.

If the horse has collapsed, or perhaps even died, or can't be brought upright to put on the ambulance, a large mat is placed under the horse, a cable is connected to a winch and the horse is dragged onto the ambulance. It's a process only a handful of people ever witness.

In the United States, the act of euthanasia is always by chemical means at the racetrack. It's done the same way a veterinarian euthanizes the family dog or cat. If there is time, and the horse is not in obvious horrible pain, the horse is first administered an anesthetic so that it loses consciousness. Then an overdose of a barbiturate, usually pentobarbital, is given to stop the heart and breathing. In extreme cases, they just use the barbiturate to quickly end the horse's pain and life.

It wasn't always this way. Many years ago, a gun was used to put a bullet in the horse's head while on the track.

"Talking to old-timers like Noble Threewitt and Charlie Whittingham, they used to say you could actually hear the bang from the stands," said Dr. Rick Arthur, who was equine medical director at the CHRB for 15 years before retiring in 2021.

In 2014, there was public outcry in England when pictures emerged of a veterinarian shooting Wigmore Hall in the head on the track, shielded by a screen, after he broke down.

"We don't do that in the U.S. at the racetrack," Arthur said.

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As grim as those stories can be, there is a real push for animal safety and welfare, especially in California, which has shown a 55% decrease in fatalities since 2019.

"The culture in Southern California as a whole has become very risk averse," Carpenter said. "The clients who come to me today now say, 'This horse isn't just right, he's not holding his left lead in his last breeze like he has in the past. Can we do a PET scan or MRI? Just to make sure he's OK.' Ten years ago, we almost never did imaging to make sure they are OK, but now we do it very routinely."

The Santa Anita fatality crisis changed everything. The Stronach Group instituted a series of safety reforms, most of which were adopted by the CHRB, and then more layers of safety precautions were added.

But it comes with a cost. Racing is an expensive game and business decisions can be tough.

"If [Triple Crown winner] American Pharoah broke his sesamoid bone, then there would be no question about saving his life because he has a huge financial return if that horse can go to the breeding shed," Carpenter said. "But if you have a $10,000 claimer gelding that would likely just become a pasture pet and the surgery is going to cost $20,000 for the first six weeks, then people make the decision to put the horse down because it doesn't make financial sense to give him a chance.

"In 2019, 19 of the 21 early fatalities were all fetlock failures. So, we asked ourselves, 'If we removed finances from the discussion, because the procedure is very expensive, and we evaluated these horses solely from a medical perspective, would we have done surgery to give some of these horses a chance?' "

In stepped the Stronach Group (owner of Santa Anita), Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, Los Alamitos and the Thoroughbred Owners of California. They agreed to partner with the owners to offset some or, if the owner has limited finances, all of the costs of the surgery and immediate aftercare.

The split between the groups is dependent on the owner's ability to pay. In many cases, racing is a rich person's game, so money is not the issue.

Carpenter has refined a procedure called arthrodesis, a surgery in which a movable joint is made immovable. It's similar to spinal fusion on humans. The cost is about $20,000 for the first six weeks. After surgery the horses can't return to racing but can do things like light riding, trail riding or nonjumping forms of equestrian.

"Some are going into rehab-type facilities where there are disabled veterans or kids with disabilities and they ride the horses and take care of the horses," Carpenter said. "There is a unique bond that these horses offer because they may have an injury with metal in their leg like the person has too."

Santa Anita, along with the TOC, has had 12 successful interventions since 2020. Del Mar, which has a shorter season, has had five.

Blea points out that even if a horse can be saved, it's not always the right decision.

"Over time nobody wants to see any horse suffer or in pain, 24 hours a day, seven days a week," Blea said. "So quality of life has always been the crux on which decisions to euthanize or attempt surgery or heroic salvage-type procedures [are made].

"The decision is what is that horse's quality of life going to be."

Racing is hoping to merge the optics and reality of saving horses into the fabric of everyday life at the track.

"Everyone in the business is coming to the realization that for horse racing to survive and thrive, there can't be any question that we are doing all we can to protect horses and make racing as safe as possible," Arthur said.

"We have to take care of horses before, during and after races."

As Saturday's Belmont Stakes approaches, those within horse racing hope to avoid a spate of deaths, or even a single one, for fear it could overshadow race day the way it did at Churchill Downs five weeks ago. The survival of the sport might depend on it.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Bulls take back Wall Street as S&P 500 climbs 20% from October

BY STAN CHOE

Stocks rose just enough Thursday for Wall Street to barrel into a new bull market as the Standard & Poor's 500 keeps rallying off its low from last autumn.

The benchmark index rose 0.6% to carry it 20% above a bottom hit in October. That means Wall Street's main measure of health has climbed out of a painful bear market, which saw it drop 25.4% over roughly nine months.

The Dow Jones industrial average added 0.5%, while the Nasdaq composite led the market with a 1% rise. That's been the norm so far this bull run, as chipmaker Nvidia and a handful of other large tech stocks have been responsible for the lion's share of Wall Street's gains.

Declaring the end of a bear market may seem arbitrary, and different market watchers use different definitions, but it offers a useful marker for investors. It also provides a reminder that investors able to hold on through downturns have nearly always made back all their losses in S&P 500 index funds eventually.

Major stock indexes

Index	Close	Daily change	Daily % change	YTD % change
Dow industrials	33,833.61	+168.59	+0.50	+2.07
S&P 500	4,293.93	+26.41	+0.62	+11.84
Nasdaq composite	13,238.52	+133.63	+1.02	+26.48
S&P 400	2,557.28	-11.33	-0.44	+5.22
Russell 2000	1,880.78	-7.67	-0.41	+6.79
EuroStoxx 50	4,299.75	+5.70	+0.13	+13.38
Nikkei (Japan)	31,641.27	-272.47	-0.85	+21.26
Hang Seng (Hong Kong)	19,299.18	+47.18	+0.25	-2.44

Associated Press

Even though it was driven by so many superlatives — the worst inflation in generations and the fastest interest rate increases in decades, for example — this most recent bear market lasted only about nine months. It stretched from Jan. 3, 2022, when the S&P 500 set a record, until Oct. 12, when it hit bottom. That's shorter than the typical bear market, and it also resulted in a shallower loss than average, according to data from S&P Dow Jones Indices.

"In hindsight, it might not look that bad, but it certainly feels bad in the moment," said Brent Schutte, chief investment officer at Northwestern Mutual.

What made last year even more painful for investors is that both stocks and bonds lost money, he said, something that hasn't happened in decades.

A good chunk of this bull market's gains has been because the economy has refused to fall into a recession despite repeated predictions for one. It has withstood the highest interest rates since 2007, three high-profile collapses of U.S. banks since March, another threat by the U.S. government of an economy-shaking default on its debt and a series of other challenges.

"Bottom line, the economy has been very resilient," said Anthony Saglimbene, chief markets strategist at Ameriprise Financial.

"So much negativity was built into the market," he said. "While it's too early to know this for sure, stocks look like they're doing what they normally do when all the negativity has been discounted into the stock market: They start moving higher in anticipation of better days ahead."

The economy has avoided a recession because of a remarkably solid job market and spending by consumers, and hopes are also rising that the Fed may soon stop raising interest rates.

High rates work to undercut inflation by slowing the entire economy and dragging on prices for stocks and other investments.

The broad expectation among traders is that the Fed will hold rates steady next week, which would be the first meeting where it hasn't raised rates in more than a year. Although it may hike rates one more time in July, the hope on Wall Street is that it won't go beyond that. Inflation has been coming down from its peak last summer.

But many challenges still remain for the stock market.

Chief among them is that no one can be sure when the Fed will stop raising rates. Even if inflation has eased, it's remained stubbornly above the Fed's comfort level and still causes pain for all kinds of households, particularly ones with lower incomes.

That has some investors continuing to prepare for a coming recession, even if they keep pushing out predictions for when it will arrive by a few months.

Another warning sign for skeptics is how much of the S&P 500's gains have been concentrated this year within just a handful of stocks.

Hopes for a pause by the Fed have helped big, high-growth stocks in particular.

Add on top of that euphoria around artificial intelligence fanned by last month's tremendous sales forecast by Nvidia, and just seven stocks have been responsible for the majority of the S&P 500's gain this year.

The arrival of a bull market also doesn't mean the stock market has made it back to its prior heights. A 25% drop for the S&P 500 requires a 33% rally just to get back to even.

All told, the S&P 500 rose 26.41 points to 4,293.93. The Dow advanced 168.59 points to 33,833.61, and the Nasdaq rose 133.63 points to close at 13,238.52.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury fell to 3.71% from 3.78% late Wednesday. It helps set rates for mortgages and other important loans.

The two-year yield, which moves more on expectations for the Fed, fell to 4.43% from 4.55%.

Choe writes for the Associated Press. AP writers Yuri Kageyama and Matt Ott contributed to this report.

OPINION

EDITORIAL

We share a smoke-filled, climate-fueled future

Fires in Canada have left an orange haze over the Northeast U.S. that's familiar to the West.

SETH WENIG Associated Press

A MAN RUNS in front of the sun rising over the Lower Manhattan skyline in Jersey City, N.J., on Thursday.

THE CHOKING siege of smoke over much of the Eastern U.S. from wildfires in Canada has exposed millions of Americans to dangerous levels of lung-damaging pollution. Wednesday was by far the nation's worst day in recent history for wildfire smoke pollution, with more people exposed to higher levels of soot than any day since 2006, according to a rapid analysis by Stanford University scientists.

That's hardly a surprise to people from New York to Minnesota who have been suffering under this acrid, life-threatening pall. And it's the type of in-your-face environmental health crisis that Californians know too well, with authorities urging people to stay inside and filter the air they breathe and canceling outdoor activities, and large numbers of people almost certainly getting sick or dying.

The second-worst smoke day, after all, was in September 2020, when the haze from an explosion of climate-fueled wildfires up and down the West Coast blotted out the sun, shrouding San Francisco in an apocalyptic orange and contributing to potentially thousands of early deaths.

The otherworldly veil that has hung over some of the nation's most densely populated areas is the latest illustration of the fact that an overheating planet knows no human-made boundaries, and that as much as we try, no one will be spared the impacts. Everyone, after all, has to breathe.

These wildfire smoke episodes are disasters as serious as hurricanes, floods or heat waves, and come with a steep human toll. Whether in the East or in the West, they are just one tragic example of how climate change is coming for us all in both a slow accretion and sudden, dramatic bursts.

We often talk about global warming in terms of incremental change, like fractions of degrees over decades. But it also moves quickly, through the amplification of extreme events such as California's recent spate of record-breaking wildfires, the deadly 2021 Pacific Northwest "heat dome" that pushed temperatures in Portland, Ore., to an unthinkable 116 degrees and the torrential rain of Hurricane Harvey in 2017 that flooded tens of thousands of homes in Texas and Louisiana.

Now we add to this horrible list the Manhattan skyline enveloped in a sickly sepia smog that looks as if it floated out of the dystopian world of "Blade Runner 2049."

These smoke-filled vistas should be front of mind when we talk about the climate crisis, because they send a clear signal that it's a health crisis too.

And unfortunately, many Americans can expect more smoky days like these in their future. Much like heat waves, "smoke waves," a term researchers coined several years ago to describe consecutive days of unhealthy air quality from wildfires, are expected to grow more frequent, long-lasting and intense over the next few decades. Growing numbers of people will have to contend with unhealthy levels of smoke, a particularly nasty type of pollution that lodges deep in the lungs and can enter the bloodstream to worsen asthma, lung and heart disease and cut lives short.

The increase in smoke pollution, driven by bigger, more intense fires fueled by human-caused global warming, has already been eroding hard-won improvements in the nation's air quality from decades of emissions-cutting regulations. And even people living hundreds of miles from a wildfire can pay a grave health toll. One 2021 study found that about three-quarters of the wildfire smoke-related asthma emergency room visits and deaths in recent years occurred east of the Rocky Mountains, due to the region's higher population density.

We have a chance to reduce this suffering, and prevent an even worse lung-choking reality for future generations. But only if we use this as an inflection point to get serious about slashing climate pollution and putting an end to the extraction and burning of fossil fuels. Let's not wait until the smoke clears to start.

LETTERS

MACKENZIE MAYS Los Angeles Times

SACRAMENTO Mayor Darrell Steinberg speaks at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral about the asylum seekers flown to that city by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis.

'All are welcome here'

Re "DeSantis picks a cruel, inhuman fight with Newsom," Opinion, June 7, and "Far from home, migrants get a helping hand in Sacramento," June 7

THE MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY from St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Ventura is, "All are welcome here." The rector, the Rev. Susan Bek, offers that message weekly from the pulpit, verbally and in American Sign Language.

One glance around the sanctuary reveals an attendance of a wide range of people of various ages, gender identities, economic levels and ethnic groups. It's one of the reasons I'm a parishioner there.

So, it really is no surprise to me that Sacramento's Trinity Episcopal Cathedral has welcomed and cared for the migrants sent there through no choice of their own. These are examples of what columnist Robin Abcarian refers to as "what we've always believed is best about us" — accepting and caring for those poor, tired and huddled masses yearning to be free.

KAREN SCOTT BROWDY, Fillmore

It strains any kind of common sense for Abcarian to think that sending 16 asylum seekers to Sacramento is cruel and inhuman. California is a sanctuary state, so what's the problem with taking in 16 additional people?

It didn't seem to bother any Democratic-controlled cities when Texas was overloaded with people who had just crossed the border. People on the island of Martha's Vineyard got very upset when 50 asylum seekers were flown in; those immigrants were sent away after about 36 hours.

It's amazing that the people upset by these migrant flights don't get similarly mad when criminals cross the border or when fentanyl comes into the country.

I think all the people who are very upset by Texas and Florida sending asylum seekers to Democratic cities should offer to take these people into their own homes.

BARBARA KIMELMAN
Tarzana

When I read that the migrants sent here from Florida "reached into their pockets to offer a dollar for the collection plate," I had to read it again. Then I read it out loud to my husband. These people barely had a dollar to their name, yet they know the meaning of charity.

I thought to myself that Florida doesn't deserve people like this. I hope that all of these people find a job and a home in California. They are the people who will keep our state strong.

Thank you to the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral of Sacramento for showing all of us how to act as human beings. Republicans, are you reading this?

JUDITH BRAUN
Woodland Hills

There's smoke. What to do?

Re "N.Y. gets tips on surviving wildfire smoke," June 8, and "Carbon dioxide rates in air highest they've been in 4 million years," June 6

The smoky pall cast over much of the northeastern U.S. has obscured, among other things, news from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that average carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere last month reached an unprecedented 424 parts per million, the highest since our arrival as a species.

Unlike wildfire smoke, invisible heat-trapping gases will not dissipate relatively quickly. What, on a personal level, to do?

Having performed emission calculations for countless friends over the years, I can say confidently that failing the wherewithal to buy an electric car or go solar at your home, the biggest steps one can take to reduce their emissions are to reduce their consumerism, and to forgo a plane trip or two in favor of a car or, better yet, train.

Among the 18-20 tons of carbon dioxide expelled annually by the average American (still five times that of the average Latin American), those two behaviors typically account for a vastly outsized portion. Address them, and you can often lower your own emissions by 20%.

Finally, while the Inflation Reduction Act was a laudable first big step toward addressing the climate crisis, economists and scientists agree that a meaningful carbon fee applied throughout the economy would be the fastest and most dramatic mitigating measure on hand.

JORDAN SOLLITTO
San Marino

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The levels of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere are at their highest level yet, so we must reduce emissions as fast as possible. A low-carbon electric power sector will be the backbone of a low-carbon economy.

Right now, the United States does not have any legal limits on greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. Fortunately, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is working on regulations to limit them. This is a major step forward.

These regulations should be strengthened in the following ways: They must include small gas power plants, and they must mandate at least a 90% reduction in emissions for all gas and coal power plants by 2030.

This is necessary if we are to meet our target of cutting emissions in half by 2030.

NARAYAN GOPINATHAN
Los Angeles

The writer is a doctoral student at UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability.

Transphobia isn't 'polite'

Re "Why Trump's bullying of his Republican opponents succeeds," Opinion, June 6

Republican presidential candidate Nikki Haley said this at her CNN town hall:

"How are we supposed to get our girls used to the fact that biological boys are in their locker rooms? And then we wonder why a third of our teenage girls seriously contemplated suicide last year. We should be growing strong girls, confident girls."

Jonah Goldberg wrote this about Haley's town hall performance: "Haley was generally polite, polished and coherent."

So the fear of biological boys in a girls' locker room is why one-third of our teenage girls contemplate suicide? Seriously?

Does Goldberg think this kind of incredibly dishonest statement reflects a polite, polished and coherent performance?

FRED GOBER
Playa Vista

::

Goldberg aptly shares a mid-20th century quote to explain how Trump maintains such undue political prominence: When 1950s presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson was told that "every thinking person" in America would vote for him, he replied, "That won't do — I need a majority."

Stevenson's take reflected an era when TV newscasts were dominated by the likes of Walter Cronkite and John Cameron Swayze. In those halcyon days, American audiences were not nearly so polarized as today — nor so fond of media outlets that abide demagogic misinformation.

The devolution of TV newscasts and proliferation of debased entertainment programming betray how the dearth of intelligence that Stevenson lamented has grown over time.

Whether our once-noble democracy can survive another Trump-tainted campaign seems ever less likely.

KENDRA STROZYK
Cameron Park, Calif.

HOW TO WRITE TO US

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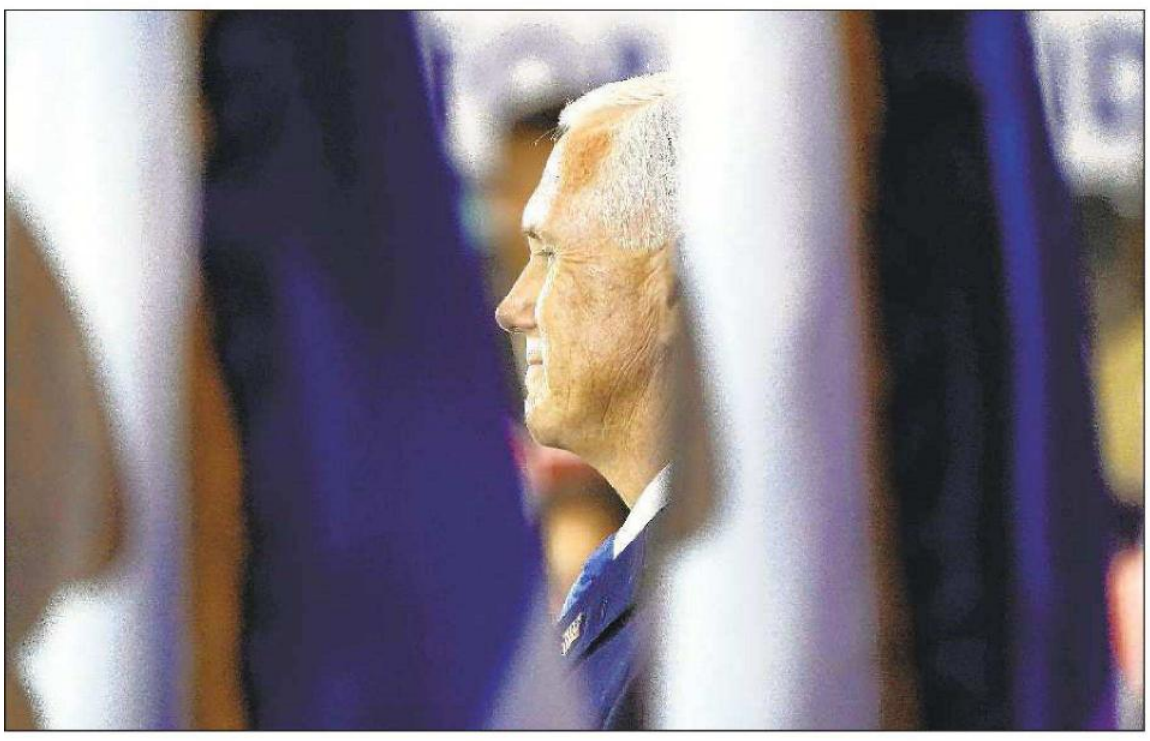


CHARLIE NEIBERGALL Associated Press

MIKE PENCE overtly embraced the 40th president when he announced his 2024 candidacy.

The last gasps of the party of Reagan

The Gipper's long gone. Invoking him now won't win in the primaries.

JACKIE CALMES

WIN ONE *as* the Gipper? Good luck with that.

This week the Republican field for the presidency took near-final form, and it became clear that among Donald Trump's suddenly expanded number of rivals, some are modeling themselves to varying degrees on that other former president, Ronald Reagan. That strategy is a way of breaking, if only implicitly, with Trump and Trumpism: going back to the future by invoking the most beloved of modern presidents among Republicans.

Of all the announced candidates, none is more overt about embracing Reagan over Trump than Trump's once-obsequious vice president, Mike Pence. At 64, Pence is among the older Trump challengers in the bunch, old enough for Reagan to have been a formative influence for him in real time — as Pence recounted in his presidential announcement in Iowa on Wednesday.

He started in politics as a Democrat, Pence told his assembled supporters. "But I've got to tell ya — as soon as I heard the voice of the 40th president of the United States, I joined the Reagan revolution and never looked back."

He punched those final words for emphasis. Yet even in his friendly audience, the applause was merely polite.

That's a telling response. It suggests the very real limits of donning the Reagan mantle, whether for Pence, former Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, former South Carolina Gov. and United Nations ambassador Nikki Haley, or this week's other two new entrants in the contest, former Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey and second-term North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum.

Reagan, the self-styled optimist who expanded the Republican Party's appeal even as he turned it rightward in the 1980s, is an increasingly faded memory for voters; he left office nearly 35 years ago and soon disappeared from public view, diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. He died two decades ago.

Invocations of his name and legacy may have animated Republicans once, but now the Gipper can't win it for anybody.

Today's Republican Party is the Trump Party. Even many of its voters who aren't solidly MAGA-fied nonetheless want Trump in 2024 or — if they've tired of his maniacal dramas and legal morass — someone like him, just without so much baggage.

So far, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis has dominated that lane. Yes, as governor he did once declare Feb. 6, the 40th president's birthday, as Ronald Reagan Day in Florida. But as a presidential candidate, DeSantis is trying to out-Trump Trump — in the right-wing culture wars, with anti-immigration stunts and by populist attacks on iconic corporations — seemingly without regard to how that performance would damage him for the general election, should he win the Republican nomination.

Hutchinson once joked to Washington journalists at an annual dinner of their Gridiron Club that for DeSantis to challenge Trump would mark the first time a father and son have ever opposed each other for the presidency. Mini-Me DeSantis does share Trump's superpower — shamelessness — and a zeal for punching back and punching down, though he's only lately starting to do so against the former president.

The potency of Trumpism is evident in the party: Together, Trump and DeSantis have backing from three-quarters of Republican voters, though DeSantis has slid behind the former president in the polling by roughly 30 percentage points on average. Still, he remains Trump's only rival whose party support is in double digits.

Republican voters, those who participate in primaries and caucuses, aren't looking for a return to Reagan's trademark sunny optimism and talk of America as the "shining city on the hill." Even before Trump (think Newt Gingrich, and the tea party movement), these voters were looking for scrappers whose rhetoric leaned more toward "American carnage" and who validated the voters' grievances against the elites. Trump just took the pugilism up a notch — OK, many notches — and they were hooked.

Differences between Reaganism and Trumpism aren't just ones of style and rhetoric. They're substantive, which also works against those who would be Reagan redux.

There's overlap between the -isms, mainly in favoring tax cuts and deregulation. But Reagan's defining policies also included some that are now all but anathema in the Trump Party: He was pro-immigration; the landmark 1986 law he signed included amnesty for millions of undocumented immigrants. He was for free trade, not protectionism. He was anti-communist and condemned the then-Soviet Union as an evil empire — as Pence and Haley have suggested, Reagan would surely have opposed Russia's invasion of Ukraine and supported U.S. assistance to the defenders.

On Wednesday, Pence, reflecting his Reaganist bent, slammed Trump and DeSantis, too, for being willing to forfeit American leadership on the world stage and to coddle dictators such as Vladimir Putin. Yet he has to know that muscular internationalism is increasingly unpopular among his would-be voters. They flock behind Trump's isolationist "America First" banner. The intraparty tension is evident in Congress, where Republicans are split over further aid to Ukraine.

When candidates for president are mired in single digits in the polls, it can't hurt for them to wrap themselves in the mantle of a party icon. But it won't help them either. Reaganism is the past. The Republican Party shows no signs of going back — and certainly not in time for the 2024 primaries.

@jackiekcalmes

Happy Pride to my Catholic mother-in-law

Mrs. Killen died last week. The bond we built over time surprised us both.

By Douglas Braun-Harvey

MY MOTHER-IN-LAW died on June 3. We first met in her Wallingford, Conn., kitchen the day after Christmas in 1987. This was a few years after her son Al, my partner (now husband) of 36 years, first disclosed to her that she had a gay son. She was accepting but drew the line at "never wanting to meet a man Al was with." A daughter of Irish-Catholic immigrant parents, she found it too much in the mid-'80s to convey approval by welcoming someone like me into her home.

And yet, six months after Al and I met that summer in San Diego, here I was at her Wallingford kitchen table, sharing a meal of Al's favorite scallops. She was aloof, yet not rejecting or mean. Over the next few years, I would discover that meanness was not in her character. She was conflicted, but she was not the kind of person to deflect her moral conflict via hostility toward me or her son. She loved Al too much for such things.

I never imagined I would have a "mother-in-law." Such a thing was inconceivable for a gay male couple in those days. We were busy just trying not to be rejected.

Yet over time, she and I developed a mutual respect that eventually became a relationship with a son-in-law whom she never expected she could love.

Six months after our 1987 Christmas meeting, Al was diagnosed with a medical condition that required brain surgery. He came through the surgery beautifully. When Mr. and Mrs. Killen (this was what they asked me to call them) walked into the post-op hospital room after their emergency flight from Connecticut, Al said, without hesitation and in a strong post-anesthesia voice, "Doug's in charge."

Al's parents could have protested. They had the legal rights, not me. But they didn't. They loved Al too much for such things.

On our next trip to Wallingford, they had moved into the family home passed down across generations. Al's sister told us they had prepared for our stay by moving the guest room's double bed into the basement and setting up twin beds instead. Al said simply that this is not how we sleep. We would be fine with going to a hotel or returning the double bed to its previous location. The bed moved; we stayed. The room never changed again.

I noticed during later visits that Mrs. Killen made sure to stock her refrigerator with my favorite New England soda, birch beer (feel free to look it up). She knew how much I loved her baked macaroni and cheese and made it a tradition to serve it for us in Connecticut. I also became her VCR technician. She relied on me to program her video recorder to tape her beloved UConn women's basketball games. One time she called our home — it was still the landline era — and Al answered. He heard the caller ask, "Is Doug home?" Al said, "Is this you, Mom?" To which she replied, "Yes, but I need Doug to help me with the VCR."

She spoke with her actions. Rather than flexing her parental authority by rejecting her son's relationship, she prioritized her love for him. Simple gestures, such as offering food, conveyed her deep well of affection that now included me.

DOUGLAS BRAUN-HARVEY

BARBARA ROSE KILLEN showed her love through food.

Before Al's father died, the four of us took vacations together. On these trips, Mr. and Mrs. Killen could be free from their grandparent duties and fully enjoy our doting on them. Gathering as two couples, we created our own special memories in San Francisco, Puerto Vallarta, the Grand Canyon, Los Angeles and Al's and my home during many dinners with our chosen San Diego family.

My mother-in-law died on the third day of Pride month this year. I thought it would be a fitting tribute to honor Mrs. Killen and her journey from just accepting me to eventually loving and including me as part of her family. I am proud of her, and proud of Al and myself. Over the past 36 years we each leaned into the love between mother, son and son-in-law.

Happy Pride to every mother-in-law who has chosen to enrich their life by expanding themselves and spreading their love to someone like me who never expected, and had to learn how, to embrace it.

DOUGLAS BRAUN-HARVEY is cofounder of the Harvey Institute, a sexual health author and trainer and a sex therapy supervisor.

Why the Supreme Court's voting rights decision is such a shock

The Allen vs. Milligan ruling is most significant for what the court didn't do: further weaken the law of voting rights

By Erwin Chemerinsky

AFTER A DECADE of weakening federal protection of voting rights, the Supreme Court on Thursday reaffirmed that the Voting Rights Act prevents racial discrimination in drawing election districts. This was a surprising and important 5-4 victory for voting rights, with Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. writing the majority opinion, joined by Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh and the three liberal justices, Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Ketanji Brown Jackson.

The decision in Allen vs. Milligan now requires Alabama to redraw its election map to create another district that likely would allow Black voters to elect a favored candidate.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 is one of the most crucial civil rights statutes adopted in American history. Ever since Reconstruction, especially in Southern states, there has been pervasive discrimination to keep Black Americans from registering and voting. For example, in Mississippi, in 1962, less than 7% of the state's eligible Black voters were registered to vote.

The Voting Rights Act had two key provisions to remedy race discrimination in voting. Section 5 provided that jurisdictions with a history of race discrimination in voting would need to get pre-clearance from the United States attorney general before making a change in their election systems. This was very effective in preventing discriminatory laws from going into effect.

But in June 2013, in Shelby County vs. Holder, the court declared unconstitutional the pre-clearance provisions of the law. Almost immediately, states such as North Carolina and Texas put into effect laws that had been denied pre-clearance because of their discriminatory effects. A crucial mechanism for stopping race discrimination in voting was nullified.

The other key provision of the Voting Rights Act, Section 2, prevents state and local governments from having election systems that discriminate against voters of color. In 1982, Congress amended this to make clear that the law prohibits laws that have a discriminatory effect against minority voters; there does not have to be proof that the government had a racially discriminatory purpose.

But two years ago, in Brnovich vs. Democratic National Committee, the court made it much harder to use Section 2 to challenge state and local election laws that regulate voting — such as rules on absentee ballots and the location of polling places. In an ideologically split decision, the court made it very difficult to prove a racially discriminatory effect and also said that there must be consideration of the state's interest in preventing voter fraud, something never mentioned in the Voting Rights Act.

It is against this backdrop that Thursday's decision in Allen vs. Milligan is most significant for what the court didn't do: It did not further weaken the law of voting rights as many expected.

Alabama's population is about 27% Black. Alabama has seven seats in the House of Representatives. After the 2020 census, the Alabama legislature in redistricting packed Black voters into one of the seven districts and spread them around the others, with the effect that Alabama was very likely to have only one Black representative in Congress.

The Supreme Court, following decades-old precedents, found that this violated the Voting Rights Act. In 1986, the court articulated a test for determining when election districting is racially discriminatory. Under that test, to prove a violation of the law, voters of color must demonstrate that they are large enough as a group to constitute the majority of a district, that they are politically cohesive, and that white voters in the proposed districting map would be likely to defeat candidates preferred by the voters of color.

Many analysts, including me, predicted that the court would use the Alabama case to weaken or overrule this test. This seemed likely because last year the court intervened in this case to allow the discriminatory map to be used in the 2022 primary and general elections in Alabama. After a three-judge federal court found it to be discriminatory and ordered a new map for congressional districts for the 2022 elections, the Supreme Court stepped in and issued a controversial order halting that ruling and granting review in the case.

But contrary to these predictions, Roberts' majority opinion applied the 1986 test and found that Alabama violated the Voting Rights Act. Quite significantly, the court rejected Alabama's contention that it was impermissible to consider race at all in evaluating whether election districts violate the law.

If the court had accepted that argument, the implications for other civil rights laws would have been grave. That would have meant that discrimination in housing or employment could no longer be proved by showing racially discriminatory consequences.

Instead, the court said, "The contention that mapmakers must be entirely 'blind' to race has no footing in our §2 case law." Justice Clarence Thomas, in dissent, made the radical claim that Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act does not apply to race discrimination in districting at all, a position that would allow governments to discriminate against minority voters with impunity in drawing election districts for Congress, state legislatures and local councils.

It's a relief that the decision does not change the law or further eviscerate protection for voting rights. Indeed, given the Supreme Court's recent history, its following precedent and finding a violation of the Voting Rights Act is practically a cause for celebration.

ERWIN CHEMERINSKY is a contributing writer to Opinion and the dean of the UC Berkeley School of Law. His latest book is "Worse Than Nothing: The Dangerous Fallacy of Originalism."

PAT ROBERTSON, 1930 - 2023

‘700 Club’ host was face of religious right

[**Robertson,** from A1]
H.W. Bush, the eventual nominee, by finishing near the top in Iowa and other early contests.

Although poor showings in later primaries soon forced him to withdraw, Robertson’s campaign became a political springboard. In 1989, he founded the Christian Coalition, which gave conservative Christians a voice in the nation’s capital and helped turn the religious right into a well-organized political movement.

“He saw the possibilities,” said Laura R. Olson, a Clemson University political science professor and expert on religion and politics. “Pat Robertson was absolutely brilliant at taking his success from the presidential race and transforming that into a powerful interest group.”

A Yale Law School graduate and son of a U.S. senator, Robertson had the education, media skills and political experience to build on the foundation laid by another group with conservative Christian roots.

In 1979, the Rev. Jerry Falwell founded the Moral Majority, which rallied once-apolitical fundamentalist and evangelical Christians into an electoral force. By 1989, amid lackluster fundraising, it was disbanded and the Christian Coalition was born.

A fundamentalist preacher like Falwell, Robertson urged Christian conservatives to fight what he saw as America’s drift toward moral decay. He pointed to legalized abortion, homosexuality and AIDS, as well as government policies he saw as anti-family and anti-God.

But the approach favored by Robertson and Ralph Reed, the political activist he hired to run the Christian Coalition, was more sophisticated than the often-blistering attacks of Falwell, creating a more polished style of Christian conservatism. “Robertson took what Falwell created, refined it and ensured that it continued,” Olson said.

With an army of fervent followers, Robertson and his grassroots coalition promoted conservative Christian candidates and traditional values across the U.S. By 1995, the group claimed 1.6 million members in 1,600 chapters. The following year, its financial peak, it took in contributions of nearly $25 million.

Enthusiastic and informal — viewers and most others knew him simply as “Pat” — Robertson shot to fame in the 1970s as the host of “The 700 Club,” a groundbreaking religious variety show that aired daily on his Christian Broadcasting Network.

He combined evangelistic fervor with a comfortable on-air style that drew comparisons to the most popular talk show hosts of the day, including Johnny Carson and Merv Griffin.

Mixing news with music, a call-in advice segment and interviews with key religious and political figures, “The 700 Club” made Robertson a familiar face across the U.S. By the 1980s, the Christian Broadcasting Network, the media empire he built from his 1959 purchase of a single Virginia television station, reached about 30 million homes and grossed more than $200 million a year.

“He appealed to a rising middle class among evangelicals,” said John C. Green, senior fellow at the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life.

Yet Robertson, known for his business and political acumen, also had a history of incendiary remarks that repeatedly thrust him into the headlines, particularly in his later years.

In 2005, he called on the U.S. to assassinate Venezuela’s leftist president, Hugo Chavez, saying it would be “a whole lot cheaper than starting a war.” A few months later, he suggested that the massive stroke suffered by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was divine retribution for “dividing God’s land,” ceding Gaza to the Palestinians. He later apologized for the statements.

The comments, and many others, brought strong criticism — and jokes from late-night talk show hosts.

A tendency to shoot from the hip was not new for Robertson, who declared in 1992 that feminism caused women to “leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, destroy capitalism and become lesbians.”

He later said such comments were the result of impulsive tendencies. “My passion runs ahead of me,” he told ABC’s “Good Morning America” in 2006. “The problem is, I ad-lib.”

Marion Gordon Robertson was born on March 22, 1930, in Lexington, Va., the younger of two sons in a Southern family steeped in politics and religion. He was nicknamed “Pat” by his older brother.

His father, Absalom Willis Robertson, served 34 years in Congress. His mother, the former Gladys Churchill Willis, was deeply religious, and later influenced her younger son to devote his life to God. Both his grandfathers were Baptist clergymen.

After high school at an elite academy in Tennessee, he graduated in 1950 with a bachelor’s degree in history from Virginia’s Washington and Lee University. He studied economics in London before joining the Marine Corps and serving two years during the Korean War, leaving with the rank of lieutenant.

In 1986, as Robertson was mulling over a presidential run, former Rep. Pete McCloskey Jr. (R-San Mateo), who served in Korea and knew him there, released a letter saying Robertson had used his father’s influence to avoid combat duty. Robertson sued for libel, but later dropped the suit and agreed to pay McCloskey’s court costs.

In 1955, Robertson earned a law degree from Yale, but failed the bar and never practiced. At Yale, he met Adelia Elmer, a nursing student known as Dede, and they married in 1954. They had four children, Timothy, Elizabeth, Gordon and Ann, all of whom survive him. His wife died in 2022.

It was during a brief business career, while he and his wife were living in New York City, that Robertson first felt what he would call a “God-shaped vacuum” in his life. “I was so burdened with the futility of life that at one point I actually considered suicide,” he wrote in “Shout It From the Housetops,” his 1972 autobiography.

After meeting with a Baptist evangelist sent by his mother, Robertson said, he had a born-again experience and rushed home to tell his stunned wife that he had been saved. He enrolled at New York Theological Seminary, earning a master’s degree in divinity in 1959.

Although he was soon an ordained Southern Baptist minister — he resigned when he ran for president — Robertson embraced the charismatic movement, characterized by a personal relationship with God and a belief in faith-healing, prophesy and the ability to speak in tongues.

Through his ministry, Robertson claimed credit for healing illnesses and even diverting natural disasters. In 1986, he said on the air that the previous year, he had “prayed away” Hurricane Gloria, which skipped his home base of Virginia Beach, Va., but slammed into North Carolina and later Long Island.

Robertson often said God gave him personal guidance, including directing him in 1959 to buy the TV station he used to create his religious channel, the nation’s first. He then had the idea of asking 700 viewers to pledge $10 a month to meet the station’s monthly expenses, which became the basis for “The 700 Club” show. He was also a pioneer in the use of satellite transmissions to cable television systems.

In 1980, concerned about a lack of wholesome programming elsewhere, he bought the rights to old TV series, including westerns and family-friendly shows such as “Father Knows Best,” which helped expand the Christian Broadcasting Network’s viewership. Its family entertainment arm was eventually spun off and, in 1997, sold to Fox Kids for a reported $1.9 billion, and later to Disney.

Among his other enterprises were Regent University, a Christian university in Virginia Beach with graduate programs and an accredited law school, and Operation Blessing, a global charity.

Robertson was edging toward politics by the early 1980s, focusing on national and global issues on “The 700 Club.”

“I have always thought that Christians should get involved in public life,” he told the Chicago Tribune in 1985.

When he ran for president, he shared much of the agenda of other Republicans seeking the nomination. But, moved by what he saw as the nation’s moral decline, he went beyond what then was the standard conservative line.

He called for not only measures against abortion, but also tax breaks for “stable family units,” in which mothers stayed home with their children. He offered ringing endorsements of school prayer, implying it would ease the problems of illiteracy and drug use. And he said landlords should be able to discriminate without criminal penalty against people with AIDS.

With strong donations and dedicated volunteers, Robertson finished second in Iowa’s GOP caucuses to Kansas Sen. Bob Dole, with Bush coming in third. He did well in several other states but poorly in New Hampshire and the Super Tuesday primaries. He withdrew soon afterward, endorsing Bush, who went on to win the presidency.

Armed with a database of thousands of donors and supporters, he founded the Christian Coalition the next year. As the group gained political clout, Robertson was invited to the White House and Capitol Hill. In 1995, he was on the cover of U.S. News & World Report for a story about the power of the religious right.

But the influence of the Christian Coalition — and Robertson — soon began to fade. Reed stepped down in 1997 and the coalition struggled with financial and other problems. In 2001, Robertson resigned too, both as president and from the coalition’s board, saying he wanted to focus on other interests. By then, the organization was in debt.

Robertson continued to appear on “The 700 Club” into his 90s, although his son Gordon, appointed chief executive of CBN in 2007, became the program’s primary host. Robertson retired in 2021.

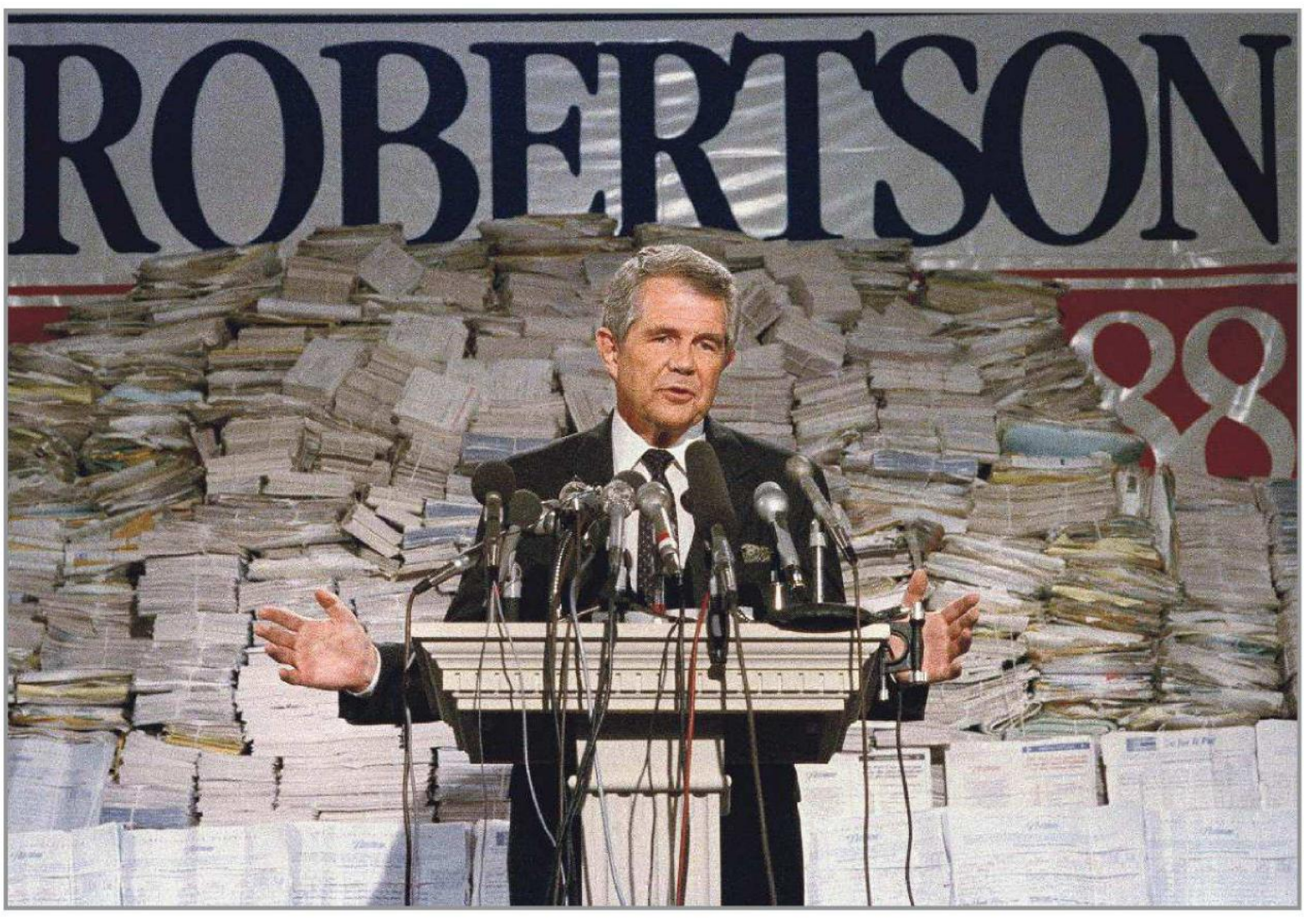
By 2006, after his increasingly provocative statements, old allies and friends in the evangelical movement began to distance themselves. “He speaks for an ever-diminishing number of American evangelicals,” said Richard Land, president emeritus of the Southern Evangelical Seminary.

But Robertson was undaunted and continued to speak out, whether it was to blame the destructive nature of storms or hurricanes on the LGBTQ+ community or to make wild predictions, such as his forecast that asteroids would soon destroy Earth. He cheered Donald Trump’s election but later said he found the president “very erratic” and someone who “lives in an alternate reality.”

Some analysts suggested Robertson was simply dialing up his rhetoric in an attempt to reclaim his position as the face of the religious right.

“As his influence waned and the movement diversified,” Olson said, “maybe he was trying to insert himself back into a position of relevance.”

Trounson is a former Times staff writer.



STEVE HELBER Associated Press

TAKING HIS INFLUENCE TO POLITICS

Pat Robertson campaigns in 1987 for the GOP presidential nomination. Although he withdrew from the race, his effort became a political springboard. In 1989, he founded the Christian Coalition, which gave conservative Christians a voice in Washington.

Woman held in neighbor’s killing admits to racial slurs

White Floridian charged in shooting tells detectives she used ‘N-word’ toward Black victim’s kids.

BY CURT ANDERSON

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — A white Florida woman charged with shooting and killing her Black neighbor told detectives that she called the victim’s children by racist slurs in the months leading up to the slaying, according to an arrest report released Thursday.

Susan Louise Lorincz, 58, admitted to detectives that she called the children “the N-word.” One child told deputies that the night of the shooting, Lorincz “came out of her house and gave the children the middle finger” and said: “Get away from my house, you Black slave,” according to the report.

The report from the Marion County Sheriff’s Office came out shortly before Lorincz made her initial appearance in court Thursday by video. She has been charged with the first-degree felony of manslaughter with a firearm, as well as culpable negligence, battery and two counts of assault, Sheriff Billy Woods said in a statement.

Lorincz appeared wearing a dark protective vest and answered the judge’s questions about her finances. Her attorney, an assistant public defender appointed by the judge, entered a written plea of not guilty. A bond hearing will be scheduled in the coming days.

In a statement to investigators after the shooting of Ajike Owens, a 35-year-old Black mother of four, Lorincz was quoted as saying she had problems for two years with children in the neighborhood not “respecting” her — including the victim’s children, who range in age from 3 to 12.

“Lorincz advised that the children of [Owens] have told her in the past they would kill her,” the report said.

The day of the shooting, Lorincz told investigators she had a headache and that “neighbors were outside screaming and yelling, kids were running around” in a grassy area separating two apartment buildings, including hers.

That night, while a few children were playing basketball, Lorincz came outside to throw a pair of roller skates at them, hitting one on the feet, according to the report. Lorincz claimed that Owens, the children’s mother, then knocked on her door and threatened to kill her.

According to the sheriff’s timeline, Lorincz called the department at 8:54 on the night of the shooting to say kids were threatening her and trespassing. She had previously placed “No trespassing” signs in the grassy areas, despite those being shared areas and not part of her rental.

Many details about the case remain unclear, according to the report.

While deputies were on their way, more calls came in to 911 about shots heard in the area. At 9:04 p.m., one of Owens’ children called 911 to say his mother had been shot, according to the timeline in the report. Lorincz also called again, saying she had shot a woman through her front door. Deputies arrived about three minutes later to find Owens lying on the ground. She was pronounced dead at a hospital half an hour later.

Lorincz claimed “that Owens banged on the door so hard everything started shaking and she thought the door was going to come off,” and that she panicked and said to herself, “ ‘Oh, my God, she’s really going to kill me this time,’ ” according to the report.

That’s when Lorincz fired a single round from her .380-caliber handgun, the report says, noting that Lorincz also had a second handgun in the home.

“Lorincz advised that she purchased the firearm for protection after an altercation with the victim,” it says.

During a news conference Wednesday afternoon, Owens’ family, friends and community leaders joined civil rights attorney Ben Crump — who became well-known representing Trayvon Martin’s family — in thanking the sheriff for making the arrest and calling for justice for Owens.

“This is not a difficult case,” Crump said. He called on the state attorney’s office to “zealously prosecute” the shooter.

Crump, along with Owens’ mother and multiple neighbors, noted during the news conference that the “feud” the sheriff spoke of was between Lorincz and neighborhood children. Neighbors said Lorincz frequently called the children vile names when they played in the grassy area outside her home.

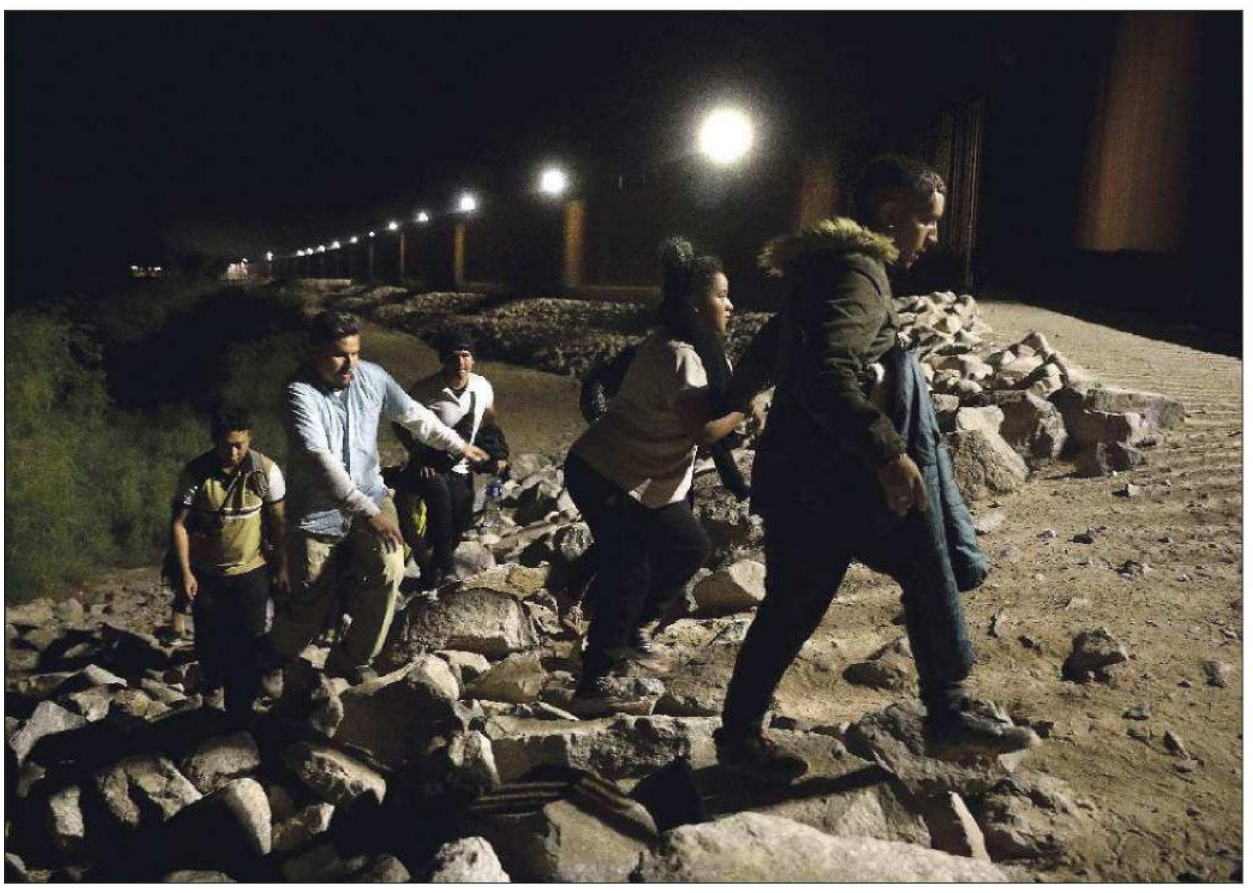
Authorities had delayed her arrest for several days while looking into a possible “stand your ground ” claim. Detectives have since said that Lorincz’s actions are not justifiable under Florida law.

The sheriff has said that since January 2021, deputies responded to at least half a dozen complaints between Owens and Lorincz.

Owens’ mother, Pamela Dias, has said she will now raise her four young grandchildren. Owens’ funeral is set for Monday in Ocala, Fla.

Anderson writes for the Associated Press.

CALIFORNIA



GARY CORONADO Los Angeles Times

MONTHS before the California flights, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis last year flew migrants from the southern border to Massachusetts. Above, several cross into Arizona to turn themselves in to U.S. agents in May.

Pawns in a political feud

Dumping migrants is part of DeSantis' campaign strategy

MARK Z. BARABAK and ANITA CHABRIA
REPORTING FROM SACRAMENTO

The headquarters of the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento lies on a dingy stretch of road between a gas station and a graveyard, about two miles from the state Capitol. It's an office building, with a hard-to-find entrance and no church to tend those in need.

It was here that about a dozen Latin American asylum seekers were dumped last Friday by the state of Florida. Days later, 20 more migrants arrived courtesy of the Sunshine State.

Florida authorities have called it a "voluntary relocation," suggesting the deportees — powerless, impoverished — were a party to their transcontinental evacuation and unceremonious delivery.

In fact, it's just the latest human sacrifice on the altar of political ambition by Florida's White House-seeking governor, Ron DeSantis.

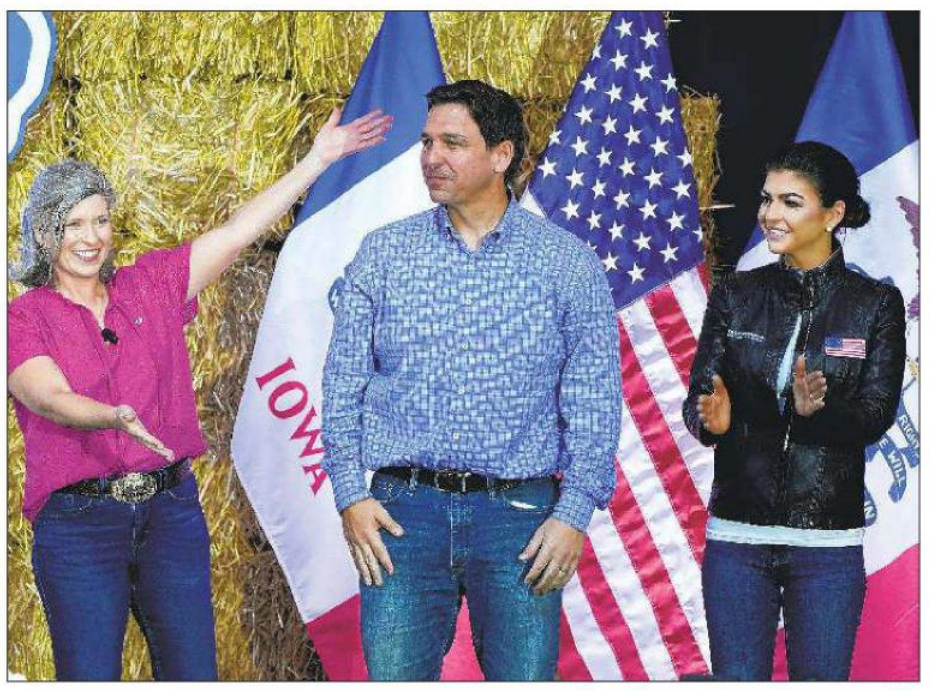
His supine state Legislature, which makes virtually every wish of DeSantis' its command, has allotted $24 million to ship migrants — even those outside Florida — from the southern U.S. border to other, mostly Democratic, states.

Take that, woke lefties!

Columnists Anita Chabria and Mark Z. Barabak discuss the political stunt and the scorpions-in-a-bottle relationship between DeSantis and California Gov. Gavin Newsom, who wishes he could run for president.

Chabria: When I look at these flights, I can't get past that DeSantis will be in

[See **Migrants,** B2]



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL Associated Press

DeSANTIS campaigns for president in Des Moines last week. His state recently paid to fly more than 30 asylum seekers to Sacramento.

State reaches settlement in rent relief suit

Housing department must address delays, denials in pandemic help for tenants.

BY CHARLOTTE KRAMON

Tenants' rights advocates and the California Department of Housing and Community Development reached a settlement this week to address processing delays and denials in rent relief applications for eligible tenants, meaning more renters could soon get financial aid.

During the pandemic, California tasked the department with administering more than $5 billion in state and federal funds to assist vulnerable tenants with rent relief through California's COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program. The agency closed the application portal at the end of March 2022.

A surge in denials beginning after the closure propelled advocates to sue, alleging that eligible renters were rejected and left without financial aid. By July, around 30% of applicants had been denied assistance from the program, even though 93% were probably eligible for debt relief, according to the National Equity Atlas, an organization that reports on racial and economic equity.

"The way the program was set up was not responsive to the population it was meant to serve," said Faizah Malik, senior staff attorney at Public Counsel, a nonprofit law firm that helped represent the community advocacy organizations that sued the state.

Tenant advocates sued the housing department in June 2022 for distributing funds through an application process they characterized as muddled with barriers for low-income and vulnerable individuals unfamiliar with navigating government bureaucracy.

Tenants found long waits, language and technological barriers, and vague explanations if they were denied assistance, according to lawyers involved in the settlement.

The settlement requires the department to make several changes to its system for pending relief applications and to provide tenants with the information they need to appeal.

More than 100,000 households are waiting to hear whether they will receive rent relief, according to a data analysis by Public Counsel.

"Ultimately, the petitioners and [the Department of Housing and Community Development] chose to settle the litigation to move the program forward with the shared goal of

[See **Rent,** B5]

'Troubling' state of care in prisons during COVID

UCLA report names the worst facilities, cites medical neglect, isolation and abuse.

BY KERI BLAKINGER

More than three years after the pandemic started sweeping through the California prison system, a report from UCLA offers a new measure of just how bad it was — and which prisons handled it the worst.

After analyzing nearly 300 letters and interviews from people in prison, a team of law students ranked which facilities had the most red flags for potential constitutional violations between April 2020 and April 2021, the first year of the pandemic.

At the top of the list were the prisons in Chino, Solano, Chuckwalla and Mule Creek.

"These four facilities were routinely the worst," said Joseph Gaylin, one of the law students behind the study. "These were the places where there have been the most people highlighting problematic responses — in an egregious sense."

At all four prisons, the "medical care and conditions of confinement" stood out as particularly troubling, the report noted. "As a result, class actions brought on behalf of a large number of incarcerated people — so-called institutional reform litigation — may be particularly apt for these four facilities."

Right behind those four were the prisons in Calipatria, San Quentin and Soledad. The San Quentin facility made headlines early in the pandemic for its high infection rate and death toll; Soledad drew criticism a few weeks later when a 3 a.m. raid on Black inmates turned into a superspreader event.

But there were red flags at all 28 of the facilities included in the report. Roughly half of respondents overall expressed concerns about the quality of healthcare they received during the pandemic, and 14 said they were explicitly denied medical care after contracting the virus.

[See **Prisons,** B5]

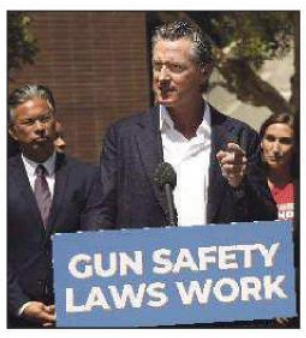
Newsom proposes U.S. 28th Amendment on gun control

UC law dean calls the governor's plan 'terrible'

BY PHIL WILLON AND TARYN LUNA

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Gavin Newsom on Thursday called for a U.S. constitutional amendment on gun control that would ban assault weapons and mandate background checks and waiting periods for purchasing firearms, a proposal that has little chance of passing in a nation deeply divided on the issue.

For Newsom's proposed 28th Amendment to be considered, legislatures in two-thirds of the states must vote in favor of a constitutional convention. Republicans currently control more than half of the nation's state legislatures, some of which have recently taken action to reduce gun restrictions.



GENARO MOLINA Los Angeles Times

GOV. Gavin Newsom speaks on guns in 2022.

Newsom's announcement is likely to be politically popular among national Democrats and in California, which has some of the toughest gun control restrictions in the nation. It could further the liberal governor's efforts to expand his political influence on some of the most pivotal and controversial issues facing the country.

The proposal comes after Newsom in March launched a federal political action committee, dubbed the Campaign for Democracy, which he said he created to boost Democrats before the 2024 election and push back on Republican leaders who "ban books," "kidnap mi-

[See **Amendment,** B2]

El Chapo's wife in Long Beach
Spouse of Mexican drug kingpin is moved to a halfway house as part of sentence. **B2**

Animal shelter is criticized
The Orange County facility is understaffed and euthanasia is up, a report says. **B3**

Bear treks to the beach twice
BB-12's footprints have been discovered on Malibu shores, park officials say. **B3**

Lottery **B2**

Four arrested in robbery at illegal casino that left security guard dead

Two suspects are charged with murder in the fatal shooting in Hollywood Hills.

BY MATTHEW ORMSETH

Detectives have arrested four men accused of orchestrating the robbery of a gambling parlor last week in the Hollywood Hills. A security guard was shot to death during the incident.

Matthew Scott Riley, 29, and Rudy Javier Madrid, 26, are charged with murder in the shooting death of Anthony Rivas, 32, who was providing security at the illegal casino in the 3300 block of Cahuenga Boulevard when he was gunned down in the early morning hours of May 31, said Los Angeles Police Det. Gabriel Bucknell.

Steven Hans Dunkel, 23, and Michael John Blankenship, 52, face charges of conspiring to commit robbery, Bucknell said. All four men were arrested Monday. It couldn't be determined Wednesday whether they had lawyers who could speak on their behalf.

Authorities say the defendants were operating as a robbery crew that targeted high-stakes card games. Dunkel, a Glendora resident with no criminal history, worked in various gambling parlors as a card dealer and is suspected of being the crew's "inside man," Bucknell said.

The parlor on Cahuenga Boulevard was inside a commercial storefront owned by a surgeon, according to Bucknell. The surgeon said he thought his building was being rented out as a hookah lounge, but the operator of the gambling parlor admitted paying the owner $10,000 a month to host card games two nights a week, Bucknell said.

Inside the building the night Rivas was killed, police found two large poker tables, a kitchen and bar staffed by a chef and bartender, and several prostitutes, Bucknell said, and a valet was parking cars in a nearby gated lot.

Authorities say Blankenship, an Oxnard resident,

[See **Robbery,** B2]

SPORTS ON THE BACK: Kershaw halts Dodgers' losing streak in win at Cincinnati. **B10**

Wife of El Chapo moved to halfway house

By Nathan Solis

Emma Coronel Aispuro, wife of Mexican drug kingpin Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán, was transferred to a halfway house in Long Beach as part of her prison sentence for helping her husband run his multibillion-dollar criminal empire.

The former teenage beauty queen was born near San Francisco and married Guzmán when she was 18 and he was 50, according to a 2016 L.A. Times interview with Coronel. Because she is a U.S. citizen, Coronel was able to give birth to their twin daughters in Los Angeles County in 2011 while Guzmán was a fugitive in hiding.

Coronel was sentenced in November 2021 to three years in prison after she pleaded guilty to a money-laundering conspiracy charge and knowingly and willfully conspiring to distribute drugs. The 33-year-old Coronel was transferred from a federal prison in Forth Worth to a confinement facility, or halfway house, in Long Beach on May 30, a spokesperson with the Federal Bureau of Prisons said in a statement.

Prosecutors also allege that Coronel helped plan her husband's escape from a Mexican prison in 2015 by smuggling a GPS watch that helped him dig a tunnel.

During her sentencing in a Washington federal court, Coronel said she had "true regret for any and all harm" she caused, her words translated by a Spanish court interpreter.

Guzmán led the Sinaloa cartel for several years and is responsible for importing and distributing more than a million kilograms of drugs in the United States, according to federal prosecutors who brought charges against him in 2019 after his capture in northern Sinaloa state and extradition to the U.S.

Cartel violence spread across Mexico as Guzmán and his accomplices directed hit men to kidnap, interrogate, torture and slaughter members of rival drug organizations, at times carrying out acts of violence himself, authorities in Mexico and the U.S. said.

Guzmán is serving a life sentence plus 30 years in ADX Florence, a supermax prison in Colorado.

Lottery results

Tonight's Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: $240 million
Sales close at 7:45 p.m.

For Wednesday, June 7, 2023

SuperLotto Plus
Mega number is **bold**

6-14-16-23-27—**Mega 4**
Jackpot: $65 million

Winners per category:

	No. of winners	Amount of prize(s)
5 + Mega	0	—
5	8	$5,931
4 + Mega	22	$1,078
4	500	$79
3 + Mega	692	$51
3	18,848	$9
2 + Mega	9,202	$10
1 + Mega	43,065	$2
Mega only	63,309	$1

Powerball
Powerball number is **bold**

16-21-29-53-66—**Powerball 2**
Jackpot: $285 million

California winners per category:

	No. of winners	Amount of prize(s)
5 + P-ball	0	—
5	1	$239,862
4 + P-ball	1	$32,415
4	33	$491
3 + P-ball	87	$193
3	2,424	$8
2 + P-ball	1,891	$9
1 + P-ball	15,159	$5
P-ball only	36,882	$4

Winning jackpot ticket(s) sold in other states: None

For Thursday, June 8, 2023

Fantasy Five: 24-25-30-38-39

Daily Four: 6-8-6-4

Daily Three (midday): 3-1-6

Daily Three (evening): 8-2-2

Daily Derby:
(8) Gorgeous George
(5) California Classic
(6) Whirl Win
Race time: 1:41.71

Results on the internet:
www.latimes.com/lottery
General information:
(800) 568-8379
(Results not available at this number)

Migrant-dumping stunt escalates feud

[**Migrants,** from B1]
Sacramento later this month for a $3,300-per-muffin fundraising breakfast.

These flights made headlines — no amount of paid media could match the national attention. My cynical side wonders whether this is all just publicity seeking by a presidential contender. Could it be that simple, if vile

Barabak: Yes, it could be.

Let your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free serve as a political advance team. Whip out those checkbooks, folks: Ron DeSantis is coming to town!

His nascent White House bid hasn't gone nearly as well as the advance hype promised.

The formal announcement was a glitchy embarrassment. (That'll teach him to outsource technical support to Elon Musk's chewing-gum-and-baling-wire version of Twitter.)

DeSantis still seems to be working on connecting with voters, a crucial part of running for president, which all the doting in the world from Florida's ambition-oozing first lady can't help.

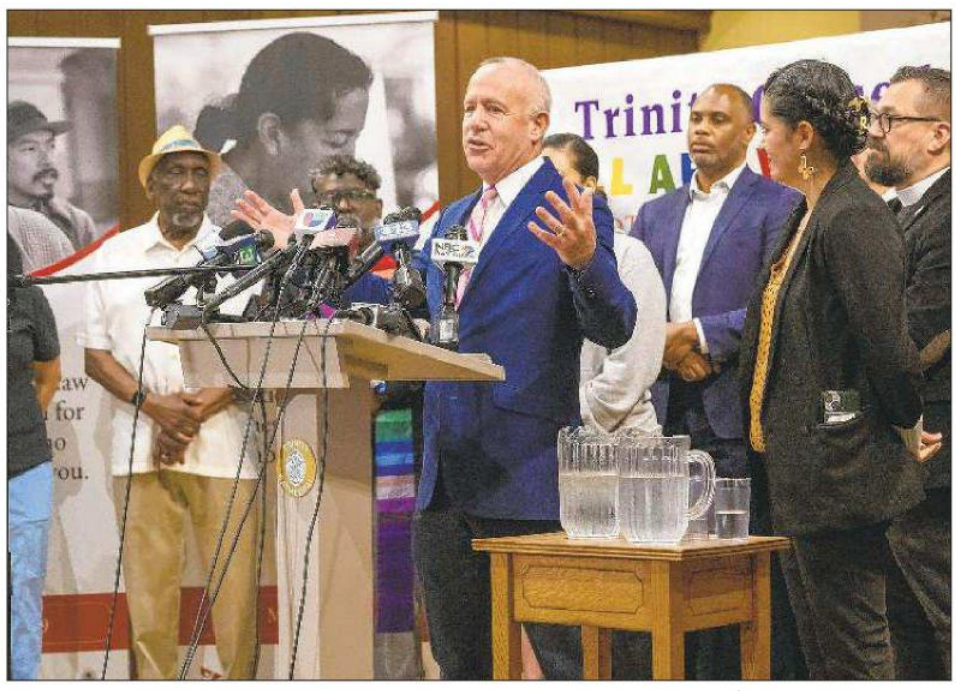
So apparently he's chosen to fire up the old outrage machine, and what better way to get folks riled up than stoking the trusty immigration issue?

Do you think, Anita, it was coincidence that Florida played doorbell ditch on Newsom's front porch rather than, say, flying its victims to Maryland or Louisiana, which also have Democratic governors?

Chabria: I do not.

There's no end of hostility between Newsom and DeSantis. They've beefed about hair gel and Disneyland. They've skirmished over guns, abortion, LGBTQ+ rights and education. Newsom took a family vacation through the South and tweaked Florida's governor in his neck of the woods.

Now DeSantis is returning the favor.



Renée C. Byer Sacramento Bee

SACRAMENTO Mayor Darrell Steinberg speaks on the arrival of more than 30 migrants amid feuding between Gov. Gavin Newsom and his Florida counterpart.

But let's not pretend our own governor wasn't thrilled to respond to this latest provocation. While it's true Newsom's White House ambitions have been caged by President Biden's decision to run again, they remain alive and kicking.

Our geriatric president tripping over a sandbag last week at the Air Force Academy commencement in Colorado was just the latest reminder of his advanced age and the worry that causes in Democratic circles. No doubt Newsom isn't the only one who wonders if there are more sandbags on the 80-year-old Biden's road ahead.

Meantime, he can thank DeSantis for putting the national spotlight, for the moment, on something other than California's homeless crisis.

But Newsom aside, immigration is a vital issue that we as a country have failed to handle policywise, leading to incalculable human suffering. Even under President Obama, we separated families.

So in that sense, do you think DeSantis has a point? Can the Democrats really claim a high ground on the issue

Barabak: Obama, as you note, angered many with his approach to immigration. Critics branded him the "deporter in chief" because of the millions booted from the country during his eight years in office.

Biden, for his part, has been attacked for being too lax on border enforcement and too harsh in his administration's treatment of immigrants.

Yes, as you said, our immigration system is a mess and generations of politicians have ignored the problem or, worse, exploited it for their own selfish ends.

I think we can agree, though, that shamelessly exploiting people for political gain — moving them around the country like cargo, dropping them on the sidewalk like a used candy wrapper — is a whole other order of cruelty and callous irresponsibility.

None of this takes place in a political vacuum. But as we game out the electoral implications, let's not forget these are flesh-and-blood human beings who, at possibly the most fearful and vulnerable moment in their lives, are being terribly exploited.

There but for the grace.

Chabria: My father arrived on a boat as a refugee, so you'll get no argument from me.

It's important that our attorney general, Rob Bonta, is investigating whether the flights were a form of human trafficking — or kidnapping, as our governor tweeted in a moment of high hyperbole. These are people blatantly being used for campaign purposes and deserve the full protection and respect of our laws.

Of course, Bonta is likely running for governor (he's hinted at it but hasn't announced) and doesn't mind the big splash of attention — just more proof you can't separate politics from policy or cameras from campaigns.

Barabak: I'm not a lawyer, and I won't try to play one in the newspaper. But I think the chances of anyone going to jail for pulling this stunt are as likely as DeSantis and Newsom running together in 2024 on a unity ticket.

"Tweeting is not policy" was the explanation given when our itchy-fingered governor blustered a hollow threat against Walgreens in a fight over abortion access.

It's also not a prosecutor's brief.

Maybe we need a law requiring a 48-hour waiting period before Newsom tweets.

Chabria: I will say this for California — having leaders standing up to the bigotry and bias that DeSantis and others are spewing is vital. It gives confidence to those here that their rights will be protected.

Whether Newsom and, to a lesser degree, Bonta have political motivations or a sound legal argument, they are speaking loudly for the values of this state.

As a fan of Dark Brandon, Biden's aviator-sporting alter ego, I think there's something to be said for punching back.

But these "voluntary relocations" are going to continue, aren't they? Because they serve their purpose so well. Here we all are, talking about it.

Barabak: I've said before and will repeat: There's no organism on Earth more sensitive to heat and light than a politician.

As long as candidates like DeSantis believe there's an advantage to be had in performative political acts like migrant dumping — heartless as they may be — these sorts of ploys will continue.

But let's not allow voters off the hook.

Until and unless they convince lawmakers they need to address the immigration issue in a meaningful way — which means legislation and compromise on all sides— or seriously risk losing office, they'll keep doing nothing.

In the meantime, to quote a sage political observer, Bob Dylan, I pity the poor immigrant.

Newsom proposal has little chance of passing

[**Amendment,** from B1]
grants" and "stoke racism."

Newsom's proposed amendment on gun restrictions, which he announced Thursday on NBC's "Today" show, would outlaw the civilian purchase of assault weapons, raise the federal minimum age to purchase a firearm from 18 to 21, mandate universal background checks for gun purchases and institute a "reasonable waiting" period for all gun purchases.

"The 28th Amendment will enshrine in the Constitution common sense gun safety measures that Democrats, Republicans, independents, and gun owners overwhelmingly support — while leaving the 2nd Amendment unchanged and respecting America's gun-owning tradition," Newsom said in a statement Thursday morning.

Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of the school of law at UC Berkeley, called Newsom's plan a "terrible idea."

Under Article V of the U.S. Constitution, an amendment may be proposed by a two-thirds majority vote in both chambers of Congress or by a constitutional convention called for by two-thirds of the state legislatures. None of the 27 amendments to the Constitution have been proposed in a constitutional convention under that process.

"To me, what's really frightening about it is we've never had a constitutional convention under that procedure of Article V," Chemerinsky said.

"No one knows would it be limited to just the 2nd Amendment, or could it do anything? Could they do abortion or rewrite the Constitution? How is it going to be constituted? What are its rules?"

Chemerinsky said calls for constitutional conventions from conservatives have gained traction over the years, including a proposal to mandate a balanced federal budget. He said a balanced budget would devastate social programs, and liberals have argued against it by saying a constitutional convention is unprecedented and dangerous.

By endorsing the process for gun control, Newsom is eroding that argument, he said.

Chemerinksy also made the case that it's unnecessary. Newsom's gun control proposals could be carried out by state legislatures or Congress and would not violate the 2nd Amendment, he said. If Congress or lawmakers don't have the political will to enact the measures through legislation, he said, they won't do so through a constitutional amendment.

"That's why I think that Newsom is making a huge mistake in calling for a constitutional convention," Chemerinsky said. "It's incredibly unlikely, because I can't imagine two-thirds of the states calling for this and three-quarters of the states approving changing the 2nd Amendment when you've got a majority of states controlled by Republican legislatures, and it's dangerous to be opening the door to giving credence to the idea of a constitutional convention."

Newsom's aides said the governor is calling for a constitutional convention after federal courts struck down several of California's gun control measures. While rejecting the state's 30-year ban on assault rifles in 2021, U.S. District Judge Roger Benitez compared the AR-15 semiautomatic rifle to a Swiss Army knife and called it "good for both home and battle."

"If judges are taking radical approaches, the only recourse is to change the actual Constitution," said Anthony York, a spokesperson for Newsom.

But Chemerinsky pointed out that none of the changes Newsom is proposing have been addressed by the Supreme Court yet.

"So maybe the Supreme Court will say these things violate the 2nd Amendment, but it hasn't happened yet," said Chemerinsky, who predicted the high court would at the least continue to allow background checks.

Newsom said he is working with the state's Democratic-controlled Legislature to make California the first state to call for the constitutional convention.

Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) did not comment Thursday. Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) commended Sen. Aisha Wahab (D-Hayward), the lawmaker who intends to draft California's resolution to carry out Newsom's plan.

The governor intends to travel to other states to make the pitch over the summer, his aides said.

Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher accused Newsom of chasing the national spotlight.

"Newsom's proposal is a poorly thought out, attention-seeking stunt from a governor desperate to distract from his ever-growing record of failure," Gallagher tweeted.

Newsom is sitting down for an interview about his proposal with conservative talk show host Sean Hannity, which will air Monday.

The governor on Thursday tweeted findings of a Fox News poll conducted in April that found 87% of voters support requiring criminal background checks, 81% want to raise the minimum age to buy a gun to 21, 77% favor a 30-day waiting period and 61% back banning assault rifles.

Four arrested in robbery, fatal shooting at illegal casino

[**Robbery,** from B1]
was used as a decoy. He entered the gambling parlor wearing a large knife in a sheath, probably to make sure the door was not locked and to distract any security guards inside the building, Bucknell said.

Seconds after Blankenship was confronted by Rivas, Riley and Madrid burst in wearing ski masks and carrying assault rifles, police allege. Rivas drew his gun, and both Riley and Madrid shot him, according to the detective.

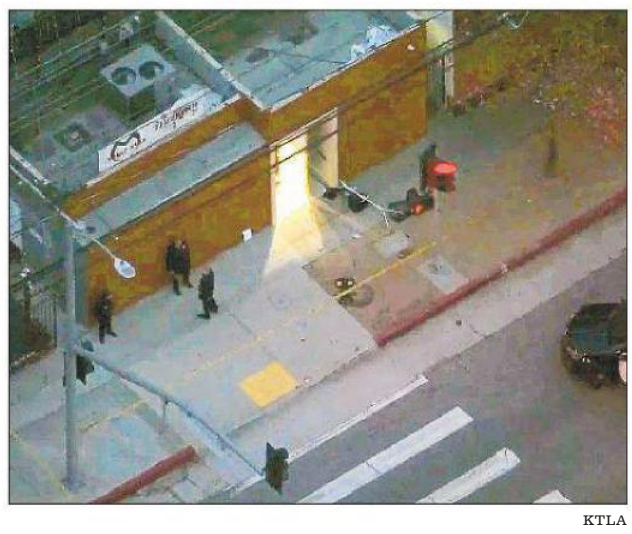
Once the shooting started, roughly 30 people inside the gambling parlor ran out onto Cahuenga Boulevard.

Blankenship, Riley and Madrid fled to a nearby alley, where Dunkel was waiting behind the wheel of a silver Dodge Challenger, according to Bucknell. They did not make off with any money, according to police.

> 'Every time this guy is a dealer, we get robbed.'
>
> — Det. Gabriel Bucknell, quoting gambling parlor operators referring to a suspect in the Hollywood Hills robbery

Detectives say Dunkel may have set up other robberies of illegal gambling parlors in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys. After Rivas was killed, Bucknell said he received tips from parlor operators who told him, "Every time this guy is a dealer, we get robbed."

Bucknell drew a distinction between these establishments, which offer high-stakes card games and expensive amenities, and casitas, where patrons play lower-payoff, though still illegal, electronic games of chance in cheap storefronts, converted garages and vacant buildings.



KTLA

POLICE investigate the fatal shooting of a guard at an illegal gambling parlor May 31 in Hollywood Hills.

Casitas have emerged as a major source of revenue for the Mexican Mafia, whose imprisoned members have sought to "tax" gambling rackets within the territory of street gangs under their control. Those who threaten that revenue have been beaten, abducted or killed, authorities say.

One woman who worked at a casita in an abandoned warehouse in Baldwin Park testified that she was kidnapped and shot in the back after being accused of pocketing money during a shift.

Another woman, suspected of stealing from the casita on Whittier Boulevard where she worked, was found dead on a Boyle Heights street. She had been shot four times in the head.

The LAPD has asked anyone with information about the Cahuenga Boulevard robbery to contact Bucknell at (818) 374-1928.

CAROLYN COLE Los Angeles Times

SEEING THE SEA LIFE

On World Ocean Day, Moyinoluwa Jaiyeola, 13, and other students from Tuffree Middle School in Placentia watch a pod of dolphins during a science trip off Crystal Cove State Park in Newport Beach.

Euthanasia is rising at O.C. animal shelter, report says

BY ERIC LICAS

Orange County Animal Care's shelter is too understaffed to provide adequate care for its pets, its adoption process limits people's ability to connect with potential companions and its euthanasia rates for stray cats and dogs are rising, according to a report released Wednesday.

The roughly 21 animal care attendants working at the Tustin shelter handle an average of 48 critters per shift, and in some cases as many as 90, according to the Orange County Grand Jury report. That allows staff roughly six minutes to clean and feed each of the 350 to 400 cats and dogs housed at the facility on any given day, just over a third of the 15 minutes recommended by the Assn. of Shelter Veterinarians' guidelines of care.

Meanwhile, the number of animals that wind up euthanized instead of getting adopted is climbing, the report said. The likelihood of a shelter dog getting euthanized appears to have doubled since 2018, according to data compiled by Michael Mavrovouniotis, a former O.C. Animal Care volunteer.

"Status quo at the shelter is unacceptable," the grand jury wrote. "Appropriate remedial steps must be taken as animal welfare is paramount!"

O.C. Animal Care officials declined to comment on the report. They were reviewing the grand jury's recommendations and must submit a formal response within 90 days, agency spokeswoman Jackie Tran said.

The grand jury suggested that O.C. Animal Care's adoption procedure may be making it harder for families to bond with dogs at the shelter, and less likely to take them home.

Cat and dog kennels used to be open to the public without prior notice, but the shelter moved to an appointment-only system to minimize contact during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the process has become somewhat less restrictive since then, walk-ins are limited and kennels remain off limits to visitors.

A petition that began in July asking O.C. Animal Care to return to pre-pandemic practices had garnered more than 22,000 signatures as of Wednesday.

"For many of the people I talk to, it's, what happens when a person is at the shelter?" Mavrovouniotis said. "Can they go to the kennel buildings and look at a large number of the available dogs so they can connect with an animal, which may be based on the way that animal is looking back at them or the way it's wagging its tail? ... That's the crux of the matter."

He suggested that the current adoption procedure may be contributing to more dogs getting killed. Mavrovouniotis said the more time animals spend at a shelter without getting adopted, the more likely they become to develop problematic behaviors. The grand jury's report indicated that behavioral issues accounted for a significant portion of the increase in euthanized canines.

"It raises the question of whether the behavioral issues are a side effect of stays that are too long and the inadequate socialization," he said.

Cat euthanization has also been growing, according to the report. The investigation found that the rise coincides with O.C. Animal Care's decision in early 2020 to end the practice of trap, neuter and return, known as TNR, in which animal control officials pick up stray cats for sterilization before returning them to where they had been living.

The decision was made after O.C. Animal Care received a cease-and-desist notice stating that TNR may violate laws prohibiting the abandonment of animals, according to the grand jury's report.

However, the oversight body noted that the relevant law "has never been adjudicated in a reported California court decision."

The grand jury said O.C. Animal Care resisted its efforts to learn more about the rationale to stop TNR. So far, it has not been able "to confirm the logic, reasoning or basis," to end preventive efforts to sterilize stray cats.

"The performance of the shelter has been getting worse because bad policies have this feedback loop effect," Mavrovouniotis said. "They don't just lead to one-step deterioration in performance, but they lead to ongoing deterioration in performance. And that's what we're seeing."

Horses restaurant co-owners agree to resolve divorce drama

BY NOAH GOLDBERG

The co-owners of the trendy restaurant Horses that was thrown into chaos over traded allegations of animal abuse and domestic violence settled their dispute this week, with the husband-wife duo agreeing to conditions stipulated by their divorce attorneys.

The hip Sunset Boulevard restaurant caught the attention of the food world last month when The Times reported allegations made by Elizabeth Johnson in court documents that her husband and co-owner, Will Aghajanian, had killed numerous family cats and physically abused her. Aghajanian denied the claims and said that it was Johnson who abused animals and assaulted him.

Johnson requested and was granted a domestic violence restraining order in the family court case in December, while Aghajanian's request for a restraining order was not granted.

The duo resolved their family court case Monday, with their lawyers stipulating to conditions by which the husband and wife would abide.

Aghajanian and Johnson "are enjoined and restrained from harassing, attacking, striking, threatening, assaulting (sexually or otherwise)" each other, according to the document.

Aghajanian is also required to stay at least 100 yards from the family's dogs — Pancho, Javi and Spud.

The pair must also remain at least 100 yards apart, though the judge said that can be 10 feet when they are working at Horses or their other restaurant, Froggy's, which was supposed to open soon in New York.

Cheez-It Stop quite the desert whey station

BY JEREMY CHILDS

Anyone making the trek into the California high desert this week should look out for the triangular cheddar-orange sign jutting into the horizon.

For one week only, Cheez-It has transformed a Joshua Tree gas station into the Cheez-It Stop, a pop-up store featuring merch, postcards and, of course, crackers.

The pop-up, at 61943 Twentynine Palms Highway, is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day through Sunday. The outpost is about 130 miles from downtown L.A. and 170 miles from downtown San Diego.

"We know many Cheez-It fans love to travel and they never hit the road without their beloved Cheez-It," Erin Storm, Cheez-It brand senior director, said in a statement. "We created this brand-first desert outpost to capture the excitement of summer road trips."

Yucca Valley resident Maggie Downs said she was the fourth person in line for the Cheez-It Stop on Monday. She had driven past the gas station as it was undergoing the transformation and it piqued her curiosity.

Downs described the pop-up as a "choose-your-own adventure for snack crackers," with every detail being "very cheesy" — literally.

"The first thing I noticed was the cacti had shellacked Cheez-Its on the needles," Downs said.

One unique feature of the destination is the "Cheez-It Pump," a device that resembles a gas pump but dispenses bags of Cheez-It crackers into souvenir duffel bags.

"It was bizarre," Downs said, "and kind of wonderful."

The pop-up sells sunglasses, T-shirts, aprons and headphones as well as souvenirs such as postcards and shot glasses.

And for the real Cheez-It fans, the shop offers hard-to-find flavors such as "Hot & Spicy" and "Cheddar & Bacon Duoz."

LAPD seizes tons of fireworks — no explosion this time

BY SUMMER LIN

The Los Angeles Police Department seized 38,000 pounds of illegal fireworks Wednesday from a warehouse in South Los Angeles — and this time it didn't blow up a neighborhood.

The large fireworks seizure and updated policy comes after the LAPD blew up a South L.A. neighborhood in June 2021 while trying to detonate a cache of fireworks, injuring 17 people, damaging 35 properties and displacing dozens of residents in the process.

Los Angeles Fire Department fire marshals were conducting a routine inspection of commercial buildings in the 900 block of East 61st Street in Florence about 3 p.m. Wednesday, according to an LAPD news release.

The marshals saw a large number of fireworks in a storage room and alerted the LAPD, which responded and notified the department's bomb squad.

Investigators from the bomb squad and Major Crimes Division seized the 38,000 pounds of commercial-grade fireworks, according to the LAPD.

After interviewing people in the building, officers arrested Lorenzo Ponce, 64, and Diego Ponce, 35, both Los Angeles residents, on suspicion of possession of more than 5,000 pounds of illegal fireworks.

The fireworks were hauled away by big rigs and box trucks because detonation is required off-site per updated LAPD policy, KCBS-TV Channel 2 News reported.

"Our officers are carefully removing and preparing these dangerous materials for transport, remaining committed to keeping our community members and local businesses safe," the LAPD said in a post on Twitter.

Trips to beach in Malibu part of the forays by this black bear

The Santa Monica Mountains resident made at least two treks, officials say.

BY SALVADOR HERNANDEZ

National Park Service

BB-12 was tagged in April in the mountains.

A black bear living in the Santa Monica Mountains — recently tagged and given the nickname BB-12 — apparently likes to relax the same way that a lot of Southern Californians do: with a leisurely stroll on the beach.

BB-12's footprints have been discovered by California State Park lifeguards on beaches in the Malibu area, according to National Park Service officials. The young male bear is believed to have taken at least two separate nighttime strolls, the most recent occurring near Leo Carillo State Beach.

It is highly unusual for bears to wander onto the beach, park officials said.

"We don't see bears around here," said Ana Beatriz Cholo, spokesperson for the National Park Service. "That's just not their area."

But officials said the 3- or 4-year-old bear has been on the move in recent weeks, traveling across the mountains and toward the coast, and has most recently headed north from the Santa Monica Mountains toward Thousand Oaks, making the dangerous trip across the 101 and 118 freeways in late May.

"He hung around for a few weeks and then he started making his way up north," Cholo said.

The bear, estimated to be about 210 pounds when he was first tagged by biologists with the National Park Service on April 23, is the first bear captured and tagged in the Santa Monica Mountains.

According to the National Park Service, the nearest population of black bears lives in the Santa Susana Mountains north of the 118 Freeway and, although there have been previous bear sightings in the Santa Monica Mountains, there is no evidence of a population there since the 1800s.

But officials believe BB-12 has been in the Santa Monica Mountains for almost two years.

Now, Cholo said, BB-12 has even made an appearance on social media apps such as Nextdoor, where residents of Newbury Park have reported sightings of the black bear.

Jeff Sikich, a biologist with the National Park Service, said BB-12 visited the far western end of Malibu, near Point Mugu Beach, on the night of April 30.

Then on May 6, the bear returned to the coast, this time near Leo Carrillo State Beach.

Since then, the bear appears to be heading north, Sikich said.

On May 30, the GPS tracker that was attached to the bear signaled that he had crossed the 101 Freeway sometime between midnight and 2 a.m. Officials are not sure exactly where he crossed the freeway, but believe it was somewhere between Borchard Road and Rancho Conejo Boulevard, Sikich said.

The following day, his GPS collar signaled that he crossed State Road 23.

Later that night, BB-12 appeared to continue his trek north, crossing the 118 Freeway on May 31 between 10 p.m. and midnight.

Bears in the region have been known to try to cross Southern California's freeways in the past, often with deadly results. In 2014, a black bear was killed trying to cross the 101 Freeway.

"It's pretty extraordinary that this bear safely crossed this busy freeway," Cholo said.

Bass feels 'fine' after positive test for COVID

BY JULIA WICK

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass tested positive for COVID-19 Wednesday evening, her office said Thursday.

Bass is "feeling fine and will continue to work remotely as she follows public health guidelines," according to a statement from her press office.

The mayor is vaccinated and boosted and has not previously tested positive for COVID-19, according to her office.

Bass had previously been set to attend a number of events Thursday, including a media lunch for the city's annual Lotus Festival and a scholarship dinner for LIUNA Local 300, a union representing construction laborers, maintenance workers and plant workers.

Bass spent last weekend in Columbus, Ohio, attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors, where she was named chair of the conference's task force on homelessness.

Concidentally, fully vaccinated former L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti also tested positive for the coronavirus in November 2021 while attending a United Nations conference on climate change in Glasgow, Scotland.

He had to extend his stay and isolate in a Glasgow hotel room for several days before returning to the United States.

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Los Angeles Times

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Estate Sales

Garage sale June 10
FROM 7AM-12PM AT 4715 Sanford dr. Culver City

Rummage Sales/ Swap Meets

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LEGAL NOTICES 1300

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR A CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NO. 23CHCP00237

Petitioner or Attorney (name, state, bar, and address):
Anna Laham
10513 Langdon Ave.
Mission Hills, Ca. 91345
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED:
Petitioner Anna Laham filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present Name
Ana Guzman De Laham
Proposed Name
Anna Laham
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Name Change

NOTICE OF HEARING
DATE: 8-09-2023
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
DEPT: f47
ROOM:
The address of the court is: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA County of CA 9425 Penfield Ave. Chatsworth A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county.
Dated: Jun 07 2023
David D Celfound
Judge of the Superior Court
Published in the Los Angeles Times 06/09/23, 06/16/23, 06/23/23, 06/30/23

You're connected. Los Angeles Times latimes.com

Business Names

Fictitious Business Name Statement NO.: 2023 108291
The following person is doing business as:
Fictitious Business Name(s) Protopia Studios 2019 N Vista Del Mar Ave, Hollywood, CA 90068. **Registered Owner** (S): Protopia, Inc. 2019 N Vista Del Mar Ave, Hollywood, CA 90068. **Business is conducted by:** a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **05/2023**. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime) **REGISTRANT/CORP/LLC NAME:** Protopia, Inc. **Signature:** Nathan J. Altman, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of **Los Angeles** County on 05/16/2023. **NOTICE**- in accordance with subdivision (a)of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal state or common law (see section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions code). Dean C. Logan, Los Angeles County Clerk. BY: Alexandra Avilez, Deputy. Published 05/26/23, 06/02/23, 06/09/23, 06/16/23.

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

Case Number (Numero del Caso): 22STCV35256

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
NHAN TRAN

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):
Marcus Stewart Ettinger and Stephanie E. Ettinger, as individuals and as trustors and trustees of the Marcus S. Ettinger and Stephanie E. Ettinger Living Trust dated August 10, 2021

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web Site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 dias, la corte puede decider en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion.
Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presenter una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es):
Stanley Mosk Courthouse
111 North Hill Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
Robert A. von Esch IV, Esq.
2201 E Chapman
Fullerton, CA 92831
17144569118

Date: (Fecha) 11/04/22

David W. Slayton Clerk (Secretario)
M. Valenzuela Deputy (Adjunto)

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Business Names

Fictitious Business Name Statement NO.: 2023 2023119501
The following person is doing business as:
Fictitious Business Name(s) Smile US 22395 S Western Ave., Ste 304, Torrance, CA 90501. **Registered Owner** (S): Takashi Yamada 22395 S Western Ave., Ste 304, Torrance, CA 90501. **Business is conducted by:** a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **05/31/2023**. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime) **REGISTRANT/CORP/LLC NAME:** Nextcreative USA, Inc.. **Signature:** Takashi Yamada. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of **CA** County on 05/31/2023. **NOTICE**- in accordance with subdivision (a)of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal state or common law (see section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions code). Dean C. Logan, CA County Clerk. BY: Lakeisha Mccoy, Deputy. Published 06/02/23, 06/09/23, 06/16/23, 06/23/23.

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER *(Número del Caso)*: 22CHLC25554

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
EVANGELINA H ESPINOZA

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center *(www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)*, your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can located these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site *(www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)*, the California Courts Online Self-Help Center *(www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)*, or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE**: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
¡AVISO! *Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la información a continuación.*
Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presenter una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo prolegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puedo encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de extención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y hienen sin más advertencia.
Hay otros requisites legales. Es recommendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remission a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisites para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin lines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin lines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos extentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is:
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
9425 Penfield Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311

The name, address, and telephone number of the plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el número del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abodgado, es):
HARLAN M. REESE, ESQ. (CA BAR NO.: 118226)
REESE LAW GROUP
3168 Lionhead Avenue
Carlsbad, CA 92010
760/842-5850 (File No. 567200)

DATE *(Fecha)*: 11/15/2022
Sherri R. Carter Executive Officer/Clerk of Court
Clerk *(Secretario)*, by, Deputy *(Adjunto)*
(SEAL)
5/26,6/2,6/9, and 6/16/23

CNS-3702382#
Published in the Los Angeles Times

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Payment Card Security Issue At An ALDI Store

ALDI Inc. recently learned that an unauthorized party gained physical access to a checkout terminal at six ALDI stores located in California and installed a device designed to acquire certain customer payment card information. Based on the company's investigation, ALDI believes the issue involved a single terminal at each of the following six ALDI stores located at:

- 1352B W Valley Pkwy, Escondido, CA on approximately May 15, 2023.
- 14626 Roscoe Blvd, Panorama City, CA between approximately May 13 and May 15, 2023.
- 5190 Stockdale Hwy, Bakersfield, CA between approximately May 8 and May 15, 2023.
- 203 Towne Center Dr, Compton, CA on approximately May 16, 2023.
- 3330 W. Century Blvd, Inglewood, CA between approximately May 16 and May 17, 2023.
- 22741 Victory Blvd, West Hills, CA on approximately May 17, 2023.

The issue may have affected the payment card information of customers who swiped their cards at the affected terminals during the relevant timeframe, including cardholder names, card numbers, card expiration dates, card pins and security codes. After learning of the issue, ALDI quickly removed the device from the affected terminal at each of the six stores, and took steps to secure the company's systems and determine the nature and scope of the issue. The company also reported the issue to the payment card brands and law enforcement authorities. In addition, ALDI has conducted additional reviews at ALDI stores nationwide to help prevent similar issues. ALDI is alerting customers about this issue so they can take steps to protect themselves. U.S. consumers are entitled under U.S. law to one free credit report annually from each of the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies. To order a free credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. Additional information about this issue, including recommendations on steps affected customers can take to protect their information, can be found on ALDI's website at https://www.aldi.us/about-aldi/notice-regarding-payment-card-issue/. In addition, customers with questions regarding this issue can call 1-800-325-7894, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time.

FDIC

PUBLICATION NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEPOSITORS OF FIRST REPUBLIC BANK SAN FRANCISCO, CA

On **May 1, 2023** (the "Closing Date"), the **California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation** closed **FIRST REPUBLIC BANK, San Francisco, CA** (the "Failed Institution") and appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC") as Receiver (the "Receiver") to handle all matters relating to the Failed Institution.

TO THE CREDITORS OF THE FAILED INSTITUTION

All creditors having claims against the Failed Institution must submit their claims in writing, together with proof of the claims, to the Receiver **on or before September 5, 2023** (the "Claims Bar Date"). You may submit your proof of claim form via our interactive FDIC Claims Portal at https://resolutions.fdic.gov/claimsportal/s/, or by calling 972-761-8677.

Claims may be submitted through the FDIC Claims Portal, or mailed to the following address:

FDIC as Receiver of
First Republic Bank
600 Pearl Street, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201
Attention: Claim Agent **10543**

Under federal law 12 U.S.C. Section 1821(d)(5)(C), failure to file a claim on or before the Claims Bar Date will result in the Receiver disallowing the claim. The disallowance is final.

NOTE TO CLASS CLAIMANTS: By law, the Receiver will not accept a claim filed on behalf of a proposed class of individuals or entities or a class of individuals or entities certified by a court. EACH individual or entity must file a separate claim with the Receiver.

TO THE DEPOSITORS OF FIRST REPUBLIC BANK

The FDIC, which insures your deposits in its corporate capacity (the "FDIC"), arranged for the transfer of all deposits ("Deposits") - including the uninsured amounts - at the Failed Institution to another insured depository institution, **JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., Columbus, OH 43240** (the "New Institution"). This arrangement should minimize any inconvenience from the closing of the Failed Institution. **You may leave your Deposits in the New Institution, but you must take action to claim ownership of your Deposits.**

Federal law, 12 U.S.C. Section 1822(e), requires you to claim ownership of ("claim") your Deposits at the New Institution by taking any of the following actions within eighteen (18) months from the Closing Date, which is **November 1, 2024. Official Items issued by the Failed Institution; such as cashier's checks, dividend checks, interest checks, expense checks, and money orders are considered Deposits and must also be claimed within 18 months from the Closing Date.** You may claim your deposits at **JPMorgan Chase Bank, Columbus, OH** by taking any one of the following actions. If you have more than one account, your action in claiming your Deposit in one account will automatically claim your Deposits in all of your accounts.

1. Make a deposit to or withdrawal from your account(s). This includes writing a check on any account, having an automated direct deposit credited to or an automated withdrawal debited from any account or closing the account;
2. Execute a new signature card on your account(s), enter into a new deposit agreement with the New Institution, change the ownership on your account(s), or renegotiate the terms of your certificate of deposit account(s) (if any);
3. Provide the New Institution with a completed change of address form; or
4. Write to the New Institution and notify it that you wish to keep your account(s) active with the New Institution. Please be sure to include the name of the account(s), the account number(s), the signature of an authorized signer on the account(s) and a name and address.

If you do not claim ownership of your Deposits at the New Institution by **November 1, 2024,** federal law requires the New Institution to return your Deposits to the FDIC, which will be required to deliver them as unclaimed property to the State indicated in your address on the Failed Institution's records. If your address is outside of the United States, the FDIC will be required to deliver the Deposits to the State in which the Failed Institution had its main office. According to the Unclaimed Deposits Amendments Act of 1993 (12 U.S.C. Section 1822(e)), **you will have ten years to claim your deposits from the State's Unclaimed Property Division according to the state's unclaimed property laws. If you do not claim your deposits from the State within the ten-year period, federal law prohibits you from claiming your deposits.**

If the State does not take custody of your Deposits after the 18-month period, you may claim your Deposits from the FDIC until the receivership of the Failed Institution is terminated. A receivership may be terminated at any time. Once the receivership terminates, you will not be able to claim your Deposits.

If you have a loan with the Failed Institution, and you would like to discuss offsetting your insured and/or uninsured deposit(s) against the loan, you must contact the FDIC immediately.

In the event you disagree with the FDIC's determination of your insurance coverage as represented by the account(s) made available at the New Institution, you may seek a review of the FDIC's determination in the United States District Court for the federal judicial district where the principal place of business of the Failed Institution was located. **You must file your request for this review no later than 60 days after the date on which your deposit(s) became available to you at the New Institution. Filing a request for review will not prevent you from using the funds in your new account.**

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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

AOLTG
NUSAA
SOSWHO
RIDLEV

JUMBLE CITY
2 miles ahead of you left.
We sold all our current locations.
We can afford to buy more spots now.
AS THEIR BILLBOARD BUSINESS BEGAN TO TAKE OFF, THE OWNERS ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BOOTH ELITE GOBLET AFFIRM
Answer: Can you think of a word meaning "physical strength"? You — MIGHT BE ABLE TO

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Los Angeles Times

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Renters could see relief

[**Rent,** from B1]
assisting Californians," department officials said in a statement to The Times. "We are committed to working with our partners to bring resolution and support to those remaining in the application pipeline."

The settlement comes as the city of Los Angeles' first rent repayment period ends on Aug. 1 — the deadline for tenants to pay rental debt accumulated between March 2020 and September 2021.

According to the complaint, tenants often received rent relief denials that amounted to a few words, such as "nonresponsive," "inconsistent" or "unverifiable" information. Without more detailed explanations, tenants weren't sure why they were denied or how to appeal successfully, the advocates suing the state said.

Applicants who did not speak English received little assistance, while others were denied for a single missing document from the long list of papers required for verification, Malik said. Many tenants do not have formal leases, she added, which also caused denials.

Low-income, older adults who are not used to dealing with online technology similarly found the application process "insurmountably difficult," said Cynthia Strathmann, executive director of Strategic Actions for a Just Economy, one of the organizations that sued the state. These individuals often didn't have emails or laptops, struggled to remember their passwords and didn't know how to log in to their portals.

The housing department's call center provided little, if any, help, Malik said: Tenants would call "dozens" of times, and nobody would answer. People who did answer did not always have authority to enter the portal.

What's more, many tenants were evicted after they applied for funding but before they received it, said Madeline Howard, senior attorney at Western Center on Law & Poverty, one of the law groups that helped file the lawsuit. The state had no mechanism to track people who were evicted while awaiting assistance, Howard added.

Valeria De La Luz said she accumulated more than $30,000 in rent debt during the pandemic. The Los Angeles resident, who speaks only Spanish, applied for rental assistance in November 2021. She was approved, she said, but the next day the decision switched to a denial due to insufficient evidence that she qualified. De La Luz submitted an appeal in March 2022, but has yet to hear from the housing department.

"I don't feel safe at home," De La Luz said in an interview with The Times.

On top of mounting debt and debacles with her landlord, De La Luz said she lost her job due to the pandemic and has been diagnosed with several health issues. She says she hesitates to receive the surgery she needs because she has no safe place to recover.

"I do have some peace and quiet. I feel a little bit of a relief, but I am not calling this a win because I still have not gotten the funds that I was promised," De La Luz said. "I know that I'm not the only one."

Landlords, especially those who manage small properties and are eligible for the relief, are also celebrating the settlement after losing several years of rental income during the pandemic.

Debra Carlton, executive vice president of the California Apartment Assn., said she still expects some landlord applicants will receive denials. "It's been much harder on the smaller owners who can't balance it out with other tenants," she said.

The settlement

Tenants who applied for the rental aid before the end of March 2022 and were denied by June 7 of that year or who have pending applications should expect to receive an update about their applications in the coming months, according to a news release. For many tenants, the housing department is required to issue new, more detailed denial notices. Applicants who are denied assistance will have 30 days to appeal.

Additionally, the settlement requires the state agency to make the appeals process easier, fix language barriers, and conduct an audit of denials from March to May 2022 due to "non-responsiveness." The department is also required under the legal agreement to fund local, community-based programs to help tenants navigate the appeals process.

Howard said that plaintiff lawyers and their clients will meet with the housing department every two weeks for three months, and then monthly to ensure that there is open communication in case problems arise.

In a February court filing, the housing department said it had some $300 million in state and federal funds left to administer.

Despite the settlement, rent debt leftover from the pandemic will remain a source of stress, eviction and homelessness, Malik said, as renters have still been accruing debt after the application portal closed in March 2022.

"This settlement doesn't mean that this issue is gone," she said.

Tenants and landlords with pending applications can access Public Counsel's FAQ at carentrelief.org or call Housing Is Key's call center at (833) 343-2122.

Times staff writer Hannah Wiley contributed to this report.

Prison report highlights medical neglect, abuse during pandemic

[**Prisons,** from B1]
The researchers also found widespread reports of abuse, extreme isolation and medical neglect that were often never reported by official oversight bodies, they said.

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation spokeswoman Terri Hardy told The Times on Tuesday that the agency could not fully respond without reviewing the report, but she stressed that officials take "very seriously" the health and safety of staff and prisoners.

"We have and continue to work diligently to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic with transparency and federal court oversight," she added.

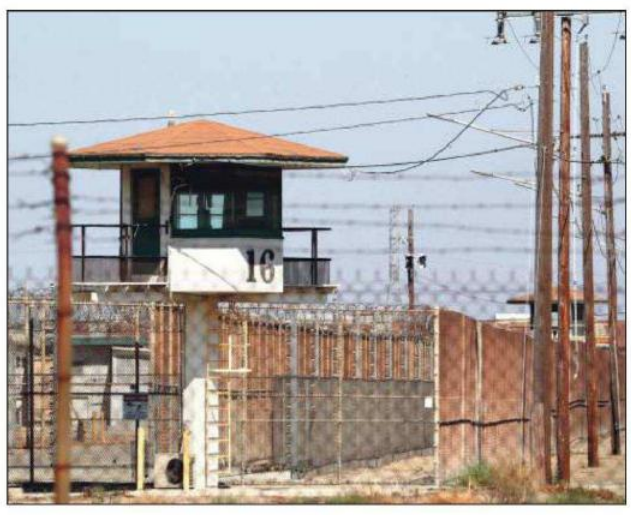
The findings come more than three years into a pandemic that has killed 260 incarcerated people and sickened more than 93,000 in California prisons, according to state data. But the usual quantitative measures — death and infection data — tell only part of the story.

The UCLA team wanted to find a way to examine problems that are harder to quantify, such as deteriorating conditions, neglectful staff and the toll of extreme isolation in prison. To do that, they turned to researchers at UC Irvine, who had already received thousands of letters and phone calls for their PrisonPandemic project, an ongoing initiative to document the experiences of people in California prisons.

After poring over hundreds of calls and letters sent to PrisonPandemic researchers between April 2020 and April 2021, the UCLA team coded and analyzed the contents of each response.

Many of the findings may not surprise anyone who's been following the pandemic's impact behind bars and the California prison system's poor track record of handling it.

Nearly half of respondents overall described conditions in which social distancing was impossible. Some described absurd attempts to implement it, such as taping off sections of dorms to stop the spread. Several people said their facilities did not quarantine people who tested positive for COVID-19.



ROBERT GAUTHIER Los Angeles Times

A UCLA report cites the Chino prison among the worst state facilities and finds that many complaints could rise to the level of constitutional violations.

And 23 people reported that — despite policies requiring testing and quarantines upon intake — new prisoners were neither quarantined nor tested after admission or following facility transfers.

Forty-eight people said they were exposed to COVID-19 when officials failed to follow medical protocols — failures that "went well beyond mismanagement," the UCLA team wrote. Fifty-seven respondents said staff didn't comply with mask mandates, even when prisoners were made to wear a mask constantly under threat of punishment.

More than 110 prisoners reported major sanitary problems, including roofs so leaky that rain was "literally coming through the roof in sheets" and kitchens plagued by "mold, bugs, rats, and Lord knows what else."

Several recounted outbursts of violence, such as abuse by staff members who grew unhappy with complaints about their poor adherence to virus protocols. There were also reports that staff sometimes threatened prisoners with solitary confinement — which the United Nations deems torture — if they complained.

"We found that incarcerated people were subjected to extreme isolation, systemic medical neglect, and physical and verbal abuse — all of which went largely unreported by existing oversight bodies," the UCLA team wrote.

Though many of those problems were also broadly reported in other prison systems, researchers said some of their findings were surprising even to people already familiar with the pandemic's effect on people behind bars.

"We all knew the conditions were going to be poor, but the degree to which they were was surprising," said Kamilah Mims, one of the law students who wrote the report. "For instance, reading about the conditions of the cells — vermin running around, freezing cold, rat poop and roaches."

The report found that many of the complaints — including denial of medical care, unsanitary conditions, food rationing and lack of human contact — could rise to the level of constitutional violations under the 8th Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

"There was a narrative coming out of the pandemic that prisons were responding to an emergency and in responding to that emergency there were inevitably going to be some people left behind," Gaylin said.

"I think the results of our report show that nothing about what happened in California state prisons was inevitable," he said. "It wasn't negligent medical care because they were stretched thin — it was intentional wrongdoing."

Obituaries

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Ruth Ann Bachrach "Hersh"

Ruth Ann Bachrach, 70, passed away peacefully at home on May 30, 2023 in Westlake Village, CA. She had been living with chronic illnesses for years. Ruth Ann was born in New Britain, Connecticut, and when she was five, her family moved to Southern California, where she lived for the rest of her life. She became an X-Ray Technician, joined the Peace Corps, and traveled the world. She married Ken Bachrach in 1987, and raised two children, Jeremy and Hazel, in the Conejo Valley. She had a passion for decorating and gardening. Ruth Ann is survived by her husband Ken, her son Jeremy and daughter Hazel. Donations in her memory may be sent to Humane Society of Ventura County (https://hsvc.org) or the Arc (https://thearc.org) to support people with developmental disabilities.

Helen Shirley Broker

Mount Sinai Mem Parks
H. Hills 800-600-0076
mountsinaiparks.org

Iris B. Checansky

Mount Sinai Mem Parks
Simi Valley 800-600-0076
mountsinaiparks.org

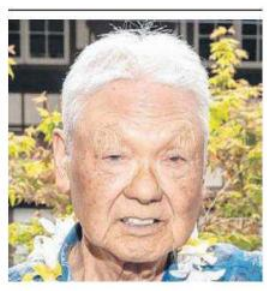
Justin Matthew Lester

Mount Sinai Mem Parks
Simi Valley 800-600-0076
mountsinaiparks.org

Berta Colleen McClintock

August 24, 1930 - May 26, 2023

Berta Colleen (Fox) McClintock died May 26th 2023 with her family by her side. She was born in Howard, South Dakota and loved her Midwestern roots. She came to California in 1943 and settled in South Gate, where she graduated from South Gate High. While attending church in South Gate, she met William J. McClintock and fell in love. They were married in 1950. In 1960, she and Bill moved to Fullerton, where they raised their family. Berta lived a life of service in Fullerton which included PTA, Assistance League, Meals on Wheels and First Presbyterian Church of Fullerton. She had many friends and was known for her loyalty and kindness. Berta was preceded in death by her parents Frank F. and Vina M. Fox, son Kevin W. McClintock, husband William J. McClintock and brother Douglas L. Fox. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law Michael D. and Stephanie S. McClintock, granddaughter Kelsey M. Sanchez and husband Miguel, grandson Ian W. McClintock, granddaughter Erica McClintock and great-grandchildren Miguel S. Sanchez and Maya G. Sanchez. Along with cousins and nieces. We loved her and she will be missed.



Warren M. Miyashiro

Warren M. Miyashiro was born in Kaikea, Big Island on 4/27/1929. 7th of 10 children. Graduated from McKinley HS in 1947. Married Helen in 1954. Raised 6 children. Master Composter at OVF. Died 5/26 at home. Predeceased by daughter Joan. Funeral Mass on 6/17 at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 9am. Reception at 11am. Aloha attire requested.

To place an obituary ad please go online to:
latimes.com/placeobituary
or call
1-800-234-4444
Los Angeles Times

Yuji Nakamoto

On May 24, 2023, Yuji R. Nakamoto, passed away at the age of 74.

Yuji was born on September 21, 1948, in San Francisco, CA to Jitsuzo and Fusaye Nakamoto. Yuji received his dental degree from UCLA School of Dentistry in 1973, and he practiced Dentistry for 45 years. On June 11, 1983, he married Julia Tsuboi. They raised two daughters, Jamie and Britney.

Yuji enjoyed golfing, going to Las Vegas, playing craps, and eating good food. Yuji was a quiet man with a very good heart. He had an infectious smile and loved a good joke.

Yuji was preceded in death by his father, Jitsuzo, mother, Fusaye, and brother Kaz. He is survived by his wife Julia, two daughters Jamie and Britney, his sisters Helene (Sam) and Judy, and several cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A celebration of Yuji's life will be in the near future.

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Anna Shay

Anna Shay, 62, passed away peacefully surrounded by her son and his family on June 1, 2023. She lived a full life on a global scale; born in Tokyo, Japan to Edward A. and Ai O. Shay, she moved to the United States with her family when she was a child, residing in Hancock Park, Los Angeles. After graduating from The Buckley School and attending the University of Southern California and other colleges, she dedicated her considerable talents to the arts, with her boundless passion directed toward the music and film industry. Her fearless and adventurous spirit even led her to learn to fly a helicopter, when she met her future husband, Ken Kemp, a third-generation firefighter. They shared three wonderful years together and bore a son, Kenneth Edward Kemp. After separating and raising Ken on her own, she developed a keen interest in philanthropy, travel, and fashion. During that time, she became more notable in the public eye, so much that she starred in the hugely popular Netflix reality show, "Bling Empire." Anna's charismatic and loving personality touched the lives of everyone she encountered. She gave her whole, generous heart to every cause she passionately pursued, and lived her life unequivocally with a mission to love fiercely and to protect those dearest to her, while always helping others in need. Her zeal for living life fully and taking on life's challenges head-on will be passed down for generations. Her legacy lives on with her son, Ken, her daughter-in-law, Nicolette, and her granddaughter, Alessi, along with her extended family.

Joseph M. Natterson, MD

November 24, 1923 - June 7, 2023

Joseph Morton Natterson, MD, distinguished psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and author, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Born in Wheeling, West Virginia, the youngest of five siblings and the only son of Anna and Sam.

He graduated from West Virginia University in 1943. He attended West Virginia University School of Medicine and then Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis where he received his MD in 1948. At the time of his passing, he was their oldest living medical school graduate.

After Pearl Harbor Joe enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving through the end of WW2. He re-enlisted in 1951, becoming Lieutenant, Medical Corps, U.S.N.R., and serving as Medical Officer at U.S. Naval Hospital, Great Lakes Illinois and Navy Camp Psychiatrist at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

Joe began his clinical career as a psychiatrist at St Louis City Hospital and at V.A. Mental Hygiene Clinic in Los Angeles. He opened a private psychiatric practice in Los Angeles in 1955 and subsequently completed his psychoanalytic training at the Southern California Psychoanalytic Institute. He remained an active faculty member at the New Center for Psychoanalysis in Los Angeles until his death. He also worked as a Psychiatric Consultant at City of Hope Medical Center in Duarte, CA, where he met his future wife, Idell, while both worked on staff there. Coincidentally, the father of his future son-in-law was CEO of City of Hope.

Throughout his career, Joe held a variety of teaching positions including Clinical Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, USC School of Medicine; Clinical Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, UCLA School of Medicine; and Visiting Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, State University of New York. Over the years, he won numerous "Outstanding Teacher" awards.

He was a prolific writer of articles and books on psychoanalysis, including the books "The Dream of Psychoanalysis," "Beyond Countertransference," "The Sexual Dream" and his latest published in 2019 "The Loving Self." Joe is survived by Idell, his wife of nearly 67 years; their three children and their spouses, Amy Natterson Kroll and Steve Kroll, Barbara Natterson-Horowitz and Zach Horowitz, and Paul Natterson and Cara Familian Natterson, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be held on Monday June 12, 2023 at 10 am at Hillside Memorial Park in Culver City. Donations in his memory: City of Hope or NewCenter for Psychoanalysis in Los Angeles.

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THE WEATHER

Today in Southern California

Extensive morning clouds, then sun: Expect dry weather across the region between storms, though low clouds are going to be more extensive into many valleys. As the next storm dives in over the weekend, the marine layer deepens, and both Saturday and Sunday will have some drizzle, with clouds hanging on most of the day Saturday at the beaches and then likely all day Sunday in many locations.

5-day forecasts

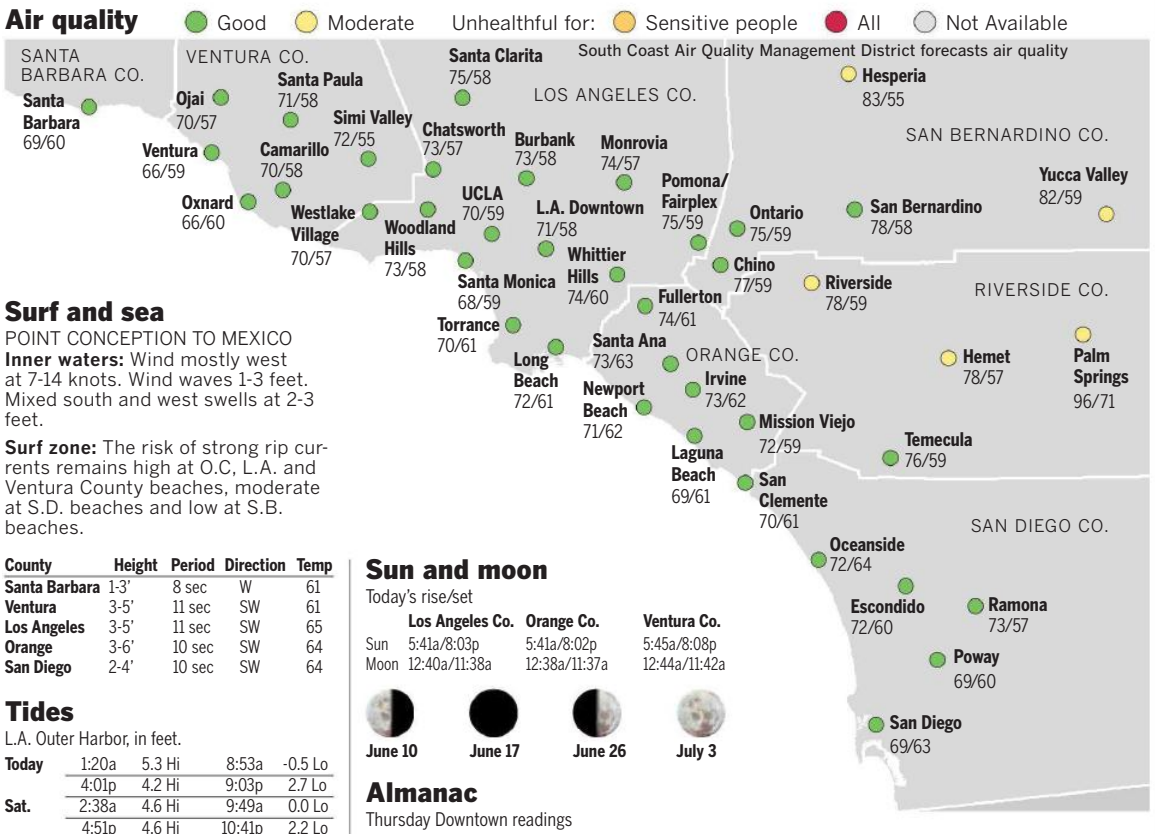
High/low temperatures are average forecasts for entire zone.

	L.A. Basin		Valleys		Beaches		Mountains		Deserts	
Today	71|58		73|58		68|59		67|39		96|71	
	Low clouds dissipate		Low clouds, then sun		Low clouds may shift		Clouds and sun; cool		Breezy in the p.m.	
Saturday	Mostly cloudy	69/61	Mostly cloudy	70/58	Mostly cloudy	67/59	Mainly cloudy	63/35	Breezy	93/64
Sunday	Morning mist	68/59	A.M. drizzle	67/57	Morning mist	65/58	Showers	54/34	Breezy	87/62
Monday	Cloudy; cool	70/57	Cloudy; cool	71/55	Mostly cloudy	68/55	Showers	59/38	Breezy	90/65
Tuesday	Mostly sunny	72/59	Mostly sunny	77/56	Partly sunny	68/56	Partly sunny	67/41	Sunny	94/68

Air quality

Good · Moderate · Unhealthful for: Sensitive people · All · Not Available

South Coast Air Quality Management District forecasts air quality



Surf and sea

POINT CONCEPTION TO MEXICO

Inner waters: Wind mostly west at 7-14 knots. Wind waves 1-3 feet. Mixed south and west swells at 2-3 feet.

Surf zone: The risk of strong rip currents remains high at O.C, L.A. and Ventura County beaches, moderate at S.D. beaches and low at S.B. beaches.

County	Height	Period	Direction	Temp
Santa Barbara	1-3'	8 sec	W	61
Ventura	3-5'	11 sec	SW	61
Los Angeles	3-5'	11 sec	SW	65
Orange	3-6'	10 sec	SW	64
San Diego	2-4'	10 sec	SW	64

Tides

L.A. Outer Harbor, in feet.

Today	1:20a	5.3 Hi	8:53a	-0.5 Lo
	4:01p	4.2 Hi	9:03p	2.7 Lo
Sat.	2:38a	4.6 Hi	9:49a	0.0 Lo
	4:51p	4.6 Hi	10:41p	2.2 Lo

UV index

Minutes to burn for sensitive people

Las Vegas, 10 · Phoenix, 10
Los Angeles, 10 · San Francisco, 25

Sun and moon

Today's rise/set

	Los Angeles Co.	Orange Co.	Ventura Co.
Sun	5:41a/8:03p	5:41a/8:02p	5:45a/8:08p
Moon	12:40a/11:38a	12:38a/11:37a	12:44a/11:42a

June 10 · June 17 · June 26 · July 3

Almanac

Thursday Downtown readings

Temperature	Los Angeles	Fullerton	Ventura
High/low	72/58	75/58	66/56
Normal high/low	76/60	77/61	71/54
High/low a year ago	75/63	79/64	69/59
Record high/date	99/1890	96/2015	78/1973
Record low/date	49/1894	56/2020	43/1950

Precipitation	Los Angeles	Fullerton	Ventura
24-hour total (as of 5 p.m.)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Season total (since Oct. 1)	28.03	21.35	26.59
Last season (Oct. 1 to date)	12.16	6.46	11.34
Season norm (Oct. 1 to date)	14.06	11.65	15.88
Humidity (high/low)	89/54	93/50	89/60

California cities

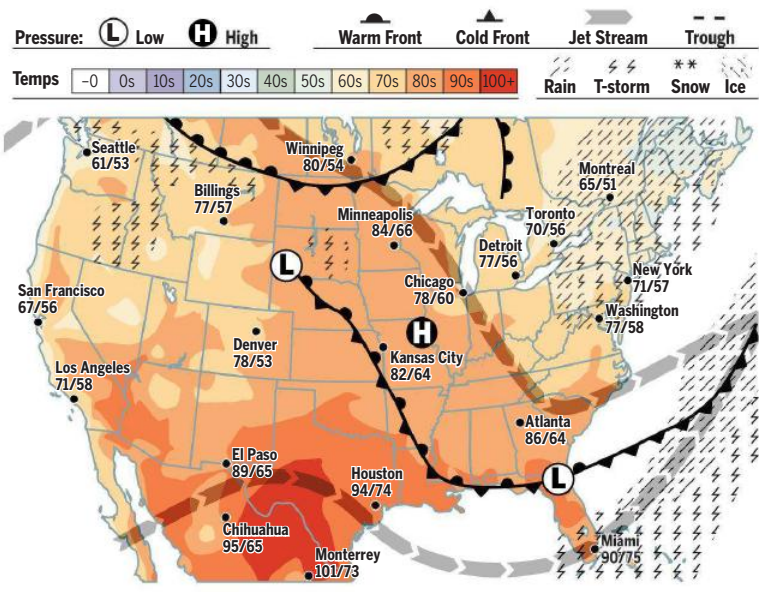
City	Thursday Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today Hi	Lo	Saturday Hi	Lo
Anaheim	77	59	--	74	61	70	62
Avalon/Catalina	61	53	--	60	54	59	54
Bakersfield	82	60	--	86	64	82	65
Barstow	89	59	--	91	67	87	62
Big Bear Lake	66	38	--	67	39	63	35
Bishop	83	43	--	80	55	74	51
Burbank	72	53	--	73	58	71	57
Camarillo	72	55	--	70	58	70	59
Chatsworth	78	51	--	73	57	69	57
Chino	78	53	--	77	59	74	59
Compton	70	56	--	72	61	70	61
Dana Point	68	58	--	70	62	68	59
Death Valley	98	71	--	100	91	98	81
Del Mar	71	56	--	64	62	64	60
Escondido	76	59	--	72	60	70	58
Eureka	57	53	.02	60	50	57	49
Fallbrook	75	58	--	73	60	72	57
Fresno	84	63	--	87	61	84	61
Fullerton	75	58	--	74	61	70	64
Hemet	79	53	--	78	57	73	56
Hesperia	xx	xx	xx	83	55	79	52
Huntington Beach	72	54	--	70	62	68	63
Idyllwild	70	40	--	69	53	68	50
Irvine	70	56	--	73	62	68	63

City	Thursday Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today Hi	Lo	Saturday Hi	Lo
L.A. D'ntown/USC	72	58	--	71	58	69	61
L.A. Int'l. Airport	69	56	--	69	61	68	61
Laguna Beach	73	56	--	69	61	67	62
Lancaster	81	49	--	82	64	79	58
Long Beach	73	59	--	72	61	68	64
Mammoth Lakes	65	32	--	67	43	58	40
Mission Viejo	76	53	--	72	59	67	59
Monrovia	74	52	--	74	57	69	57
Monterey	66	51	--	66	56	65	56
Mt. Wilson	63	45	--	56	46	52	41
Needles	95	71	--	97	75	98	72
Newport Beach	xx	xx	xx	71	62	67	63
Northridge	76	51	--	74	58	69	58
Oakland	69	54	--	66	56	67	56
Oceanside	73	57	--	72	64	69	59
Ojai	73	49	--	70	57	67	56
Ontario	77	55	--	75	59	72	58
Palm Springs	94	66	--	96	71	93	64
Pasadena	75	55	--	72	58	70	59
Paso Robles	81	46	--	79	55	75	55
Redding	84	67	--	88	59	89	64
Riverside	77	55	--	78	59	72	56
Sacramento	79	57	--	79	55	80	57
San Bernardino	79	59	--	78	58	74	57

City	Thursday Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today Hi	Lo	Saturday Hi	Lo
San Diego	70	58	--	69	63	68	62
San Francisco	70	57	--	67	56	66	56
San Gabriel	xx	xx	xx	73	60	69	60
San Jose	72	57	--	73	56	72	53
San Luis Obispo	73	54	--	69	56	71	55
Santa Ana	72	61	--	73	63	69	64
Santa Barbara	69	57	--	69	60	69	58
Santa Clarita	74	51	--	75	58	72	56
Santa Monica Pier	68	55	--	68	59	67	59
Santa Paula	77	51	--	71	58	71	58
Santa Rosa	72	58	--	71	51	73	51
Simi Valley	72	48	--	72	55	68	56
Tahoe Valley	69	39	.01	64	45	61	43
Temecula	77	53	--	76	59	72	55
Thousand Oaks	70	51	--	70	58	68	58
Torrance	70	57	--	70	61	68	62
UCLA	69	55	--	70	59	69	58
Van Nuys	77	54	--	75	59	71	59
Ventura	66	56	--	66	59	66	60
Whittier Hills	72	52	--	74	60	69	61
Woodland Hills	78	48	--	73	58	70	57
Wrightwood	66	42	--	66	49	62	45
Yorba Linda	76	54	--	74	60	70	60
Yosemite Valley	70	50	--	70	51	64	48

Today in North America

Drought continues in the Midwest: Spotty thunderstorm activity will dampen the Northeast as smoke remains thick in some locations. Dry weather will continue in the Midwest. A few storms will erupt in south Florida, the Plains and parts of the Rockies.



U.S. cities

THURSDAY'S EXTREMES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES

High 102 in Eloy, Ariz. **Low** 28 in Florence, Wis.

City	Thursday Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today Hi	Lo	Sky
Albany	65	52	.03	67	52	Ts
Albuquerque	86	59	--	84	57	Pc
Anchorage	59	49	.02	64	48	Cy
Aspen	72	40	Tr	69	41	Pc
Atlanta	85	70	--	86	64	Su
Austin	89	69	Tr	97	71	Pc
Baltimore	80	56	--	74	55	Pc
Boise	79	65	--	78	56	Ts
Boston	65	55	.01	61	53	Ts
Buffalo	66	56	Tr	64	56	Pc
Burlington, Vt.	62	51	.43	65	53	Sh
Charleston, S.C.	83	65	Tr	82	61	Hz
Charlotte	79	62	Tr	82	56	Hz
Chicago	75	51	--	78	60	Su
Cincinnati	77	52	--	79	56	Hz
Cleveland	70	46	--	73	57	Hz
Columbia, S.C.	82	65	.14	86	56	Hz
Columbus	76	47	--	77	56	Hz
Dallas/Ft.Worth	92	69	.05	95	74	Pc
Denver	78	54	--	78	53	Ts
Detroit	77	49	--	77	56	Hz
El Paso	95	67	--	89	65	Pc
Eugene	76	53	--	75	52	Pc
Fort Myers	88	78	.27	89	74	Ts
Hartford	66	54	Tr	67	53	Ts
Honolulu	88	74	--	88	77	Sh
Houston	91	72	.13	94	74	Su
Indianapolis	78	53	--	80	58	Hz
Jacksonville, Fla.	94	70	--	88	69	Ts
Kansas City	77	69	.04	82	64	Pc
Knoxville	79	59	--	81	54	Hz
Las Vegas	87	66	--	93	74	Pc
Louisville	80	57	--	82	60	Hz
Medford	85	61	.01	83	56	Ts
Memphis	84	72	.24	88	68	Su
Miami	91	76	.70	90	75	Ts
Milwaukee	70	55	--	76	61	Su
Minneapolis	83	62	--	84	66	Pc
Nashville	84	63	--	85	57	Hz
New Orleans	94	71	.86	94	75	Ts
New York	72	55	--	71	57	Ts
Norfolk	73	58	.05	75	60	Hz
Oklahoma City	88	64	Tr	90	68	Ts
Omaha	82	69	Tr	84	63	Cy
Orlando	89	72	.03	92	72	Ts
Philadelphia	76	54	--	75	59	Cy
Phoenix	98	72	--	96	73	Su
Pittsburgh	68	43	--	70	52	Hz
Portland, Ore.	75	57	--	69	58	Pc
Providence	64	48	--	66	52	Ts
Raleigh/Durham	80	59	--	81	53	Hz
Reno	81	55	.03	78	56	Ts
Richmond	76	58	.02	79	54	Hz
St. Louis	81	59	--	83	63	Su
Salt Lake City	83	60	.02	81	61	Cy

City	Thursday Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today Hi	Lo	Sky
Seattle	72	53	--	61	53	Sh
Tampa	87	77	--	90	76	Su
Tucson	95	67	--	92	64	Pc
Tulsa	92	67	.05	88	71	Ts
Washington, D.C.	79	61	--	77	58	Pc
Wichita	92	62	--	84	66	Ts

World

City	Thursday Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today Hi	Lo	Sky
Acapulco	91	77	--	90	78	Pc
Amsterdam	73	54	--	83	62	Su
Athens	86	72	--	82	65	Su
Bangkok	95	77	.05	92	81	Ts
Barcelona	73	66	--	76	66	Ts
Berlin	84	63	--	85	61	Pc
Cabo San Lucas	84	66	--	87	69	Pc
Cairo	102	77	.12	100	74	Pc
Dubai	100	84	--	103	87	Su
Dublin	65	50	--	66	54	Pc
Havana	90	73	.02	87	69	R
Ho Chi Minh City	88	79	.00	89	78	Ts
Hong Kong	88	81	.13	90	81	Ts
Istanbul	76	66	.02	77	62	Pc
Jerusalem	85	64	--	92	69	Cy
Johannesburg	71	51	--	70	39	Su
Kuala Lumpur	90	77	--	92	76	Ts
Lima	76	69	--	75	68	Su
London	72	51	--	79	60	Pc
Madrid	72	61	.23	76	59	Pc
Mecca	116	80	--	116	89	Su
Mexico City	82	58	.24	86	59	Pc
Montreal	64	50	.12	65	51	Sh
Moscow	73	52	--	73	46	Sh
Mumbai	93	86	--	94	85	Ts
New Delhi	104	82	.10	104	83	Hz
Paris	84	59	--	87	63	Pc
Prague	76	55	.04	72	54	Ts
Rome	78	59	--	80	66	Pc
Seoul	77	64	.48	83	63	Cy
Singapore	88	81	.06	88	79	Ts
Taipei City	91	81	.30	88	76	Ts
Tokyo	81	68	1.50	75	67	R
Vancouver	72	54	--	61	54	R
Vienna	73	55	.24	72	59	Ts

Key: **Su** sunny; **Pc** partly cloudy; **Cy** cloudy; **Fg** foggy; **Prcp** precipitation; **Dr** drizzle; **Hz** hazy **Sh** showers; **Ts** thunderstorms; **R** rain; **Sn** snow; **Sf** snow flurries; **I** ice; **Rs** rain/snow; **W** windy; **Tr** trace. **Notes:** National extremes exclude Alaska and Hawaii. Missing data indicated by "xx". Thursday's readings as of 5 p.m.

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Tough schedules ahead

[**Big Ten,** from B10]

"The football program is very much focused on the 2023 season and making it a great one," UCLA athletic director Martin Jarmond said. "That said, it's exciting to see the future conference matchups fans will get to experience at the Rose Bowl."

USC's 2024 conference schedule includes Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois at the Coliseum plus road games against Penn State, Purdue, Maryland, Northwestern and UCLA.

The Trojans and Bruins will have another common opponent — LSU. Though UCLA will travel to Baton Rouge to face the Tigers, USC will play them in a neutral-site game at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas.

It's a good thing the College Football Playoff will expand to 12 teams starting with the 2024 season because even top Big Ten teams are likely to lose at least a handful of games given these demanding schedules. The upside is that the strength-of-schedule factor conceivably could help the conference land three or more teams in the CFP.

As expected, the Trojans and Bruins will log plenty of frequent flier miles. Excluding its trip to the Rose Bowl, USC's four other conference road games in 2024 will require trips of more than 2,000 miles. UCLA's closest road conference game that season will be in Iowa City, Iowa, some 1,796 miles from Los Angeles.

The Bruins will also schlep roughly 2,751 miles to face Rutgers after having flown to Hawaii for a nonconference game.

No Big Ten team will have to make two trips to Los Angeles in a season as part of the schedules released for the 2024 and 2025 seasons.

The idea of the scheduling model was to preserve matchups important to Big Ten fans, conference commissioner Tony Petitti said during an interview on the Big Ten Network. With the additions of the L.A. schools, Petitti said, he wanted teams to rotate through more opponents with increased frequency; each Big Ten team is guaranteed to play one another at least once every two years.

The Big Ten's divisions will be eliminated starting in 2024 and teams will have up to three protected rivals they play each season, though Penn State will have none. Not surprisingly, USC and UCLA will be each other's only protected rivals.

As part of a so-called flex protect-plus scheduling model, teams will play three opponents home and away in 2024 and 2025. In addition to UCLA, USC will play Penn State and Wisconsin each of those seasons, and the Bruins play Nebraska and Rutgers.

The Trojans don't catch any breaks as part of their 2025 conference schedule, given that they play Ohio State, Penn State and Michigan State. UCLA will play Penn State, Wisconsin and Michigan State as part of its 2025 Big Ten schedule. Also on the Bruins' schedule in 2025: a home game against two-time defending national champion Georgia.

By then, big-time success will require UCLA and USC to knock off a parade of heavyweights as part of their new conference alignment.

HARRY HOW Getty Images

LINCOLN RILEY of USC, left, and Chip Kelly of UCLA are all smiles, but a formidable Big Ten schedule awaits each in 2024.

RONALD MARTINEZ Getty Images

JO ADELL says he feels prepared in his latest major league stint after working on his offense and defense in triple A. His home run Thursday was the hardest-hit ball by an Angel this season.

Adell looks to make most of big league shot

[**Angels,** from B10]

ers on the field.

Renfroe and Brett Phillips were the two offseason outfielder pickups. Luis Rengifo continued to strengthen his utility abilities, improving at playing in the outfield as well.

On Thursday, Rengifo scored the go-ahead run on a sacrifice fly to give Reid Detmers (1-5) his first win of the season. Carlos Estévez became the first Angels pitcher to convert his first 16 save opportunities of the season since Troy Percival in 2001.

Adell and Moniak made their strides in triple A. After Phillips was designated to Salt Lake City and Jared Walsh was activated off the injured list in the middle of May, Moniak was the next man up. His impressive feats at triple A have translated to several big-time defensive plays with the Angels, including a home run robbery, and he's batting .304 with a .982 on-base-plus-slugging rate.

Adell also made noise in Salt Lake City, particularly with his power bat, racking up 18 home runs. Through it all, Adell continued to work, mentally focused on competing with himself.

"I'm playing a game of me versus me," Adell said. "I go out and every opportunity I get, I try to compete and see how much better I can be, whether it's practice, weight room stuff, out on the field during the game.

"I'm not trying to size up against other players," he added. "There's a lot of good players. Good team, good players.

"So, I think for me it's wherever my role is, wherever I fit into the mix, I'll be happy about that and continue to get better and prove that I belong."

On specific aspects of his game he worked on in triple A, Adell has played all three outfield positions, including center field, which he's played more of this year. The repetitions and reads have made him feel more comfortable in his defense in the outfield.

He also said that in triple A, his goal was to work on his baserunning and his jumps in the outfield, both of which he said he has seen improvement with..

Coming into his first game back in the big leagues, Adell — who has not had a complete season in the majors since making his debut in August 2020 — said he felt as prepared as he had in the past.

"Every time you come out here, you can't feel like you're not ready," Adell said.

ANGELS	**3**
CUBS	**1**

Streak	Won 4	**This month**	4-3
Home	18-13	**Road**	16-17
Division	10-10	**Interleague**	9-6

Next: Tonight vs. Seattle, Angel Stadium, 6:30

TV/Radio: Apple TV+/830, 1330

Chi. Cubs	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.
Hoerner 2b	4	0	0	0	.278
Swanson ss	3	0	0	0	.263
Happ lf	4	0	1	0	.269
Suzuki rf	4	0	2	0	.266
Gomes c	4	0	0	0	.266
Amaya dh	4	1	1	0	.286
Mancini 1b	3	0	1	1	.243
Wisdom 3b	3	0	0	0	.197
Tauchman cf	2	0	0	0	.283
Totals	**31**	**1**	**5**	**1**	

Angels	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.
Ward lf	3	0	1	1	.242
Ohtani dh	5	0	1	0	.274
Trout cf	3	0	0	0	.262
Drury 1b-2b	3	0	0	0	.255
Urshela 3b	4	0	1	0	.304
Adell rf	3	1	1	1	.333
Rengifo 2b	3	1	1	0	.227
Walsh 1b	1	0	0	0	.146
Wallach c	4	0	2	0	.262
Neto ss	3	1	1	0	.241
Totals	**32**	**3**	**8**	**2**	

Chicago Cubs	010	000	000	–	1	5	2
Angels	020	001	00x	–	3	8	0

Walks—Chicago 2: Swanson 1, Tauchman 1. Angels 5: Ward 1, Trout 1, Drury 1, Adell 1, Neto 1.

Strikeouts—Chicago 12: Hoerner 1, Swanson 2, Happ 2, Suzuki 1, Gomes 2, Amaya 1, Wisdom 3. Angels 7: Ohtani 2, Trout 1, Drury 1, Adell 1, Walsh 1, Neto 1.

E—Wisdom (6), Gomes (4). **LOB**—Chicago 5, Angels 11. **2B**—Mancini (7), Suzuki (10), Ward (7). **HR**—Adell (1), off Smyly. **RBIs**—Mancini (20), Adell (1), Ward (24). **SB**—Tauchman (2), Ward (2). **SF**—Ward.

Runners left in scoring position—Chicago 4 (Wisdom, Hoerner, Amaya 2); Angels 5 (Trout 2, Ohtani, Urshela, Walsh). **RISP**—Chicago 1 for 7; Angels 0 for 10.

Runners moved up—Gomes. **GIDP**—Happ.

DP—Angels 1 (Urshela, Rengifo, Drury).

Chicago Cubs	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Smyly, L, 5-4	6	7	3	2	3	4	103	3.52
Merryweather	1	0	0	0	2	2	33	3.76
Alzolay	1	1	0	0	0	1	13	2.17
Angels	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**NP**	**ERA**
Detmers, W, 1-5	5⅔	5	1	1	2	8	99	4.79
Devenski, H, 7	1⅓	0	0	0	0	1	16	2.11
Soriano, H, 2	1	0	0	0	0	2	13	0.00
Estévez, S, 16-16	1	0	0	0	0	1	14	1.32

Inherited runners-scored—Devenski 2-0. **WP**—Detmers.

U—Vic Carapazza, Jerry Layne, Adam Hamari, Nick Mahrley. **T**—2:37. **Tickets sold**—28,179 (45,517).

BASEBALL

NL STANDINGS

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10
Arizona	37	25	.597	–	8-2
DODGERS	36	27	.571	1½	4-6
San Francisco	32	30	.516	5	5-5
San Diego	29	33	.468	8	5-5
Colorado	26	38	.406	12	2-8
Central	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**	**L10**
Milwaukee	34	29	.540	–	6-4
Pittsburgh	32	29	.525	1	6-4
Cincinnati	29	34	.460	5	5-5
Chicago	26	36	.419	7½	4-6
St. Louis	26	37	.413	8	3-7
East	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**	**L10**
Atlanta	38	24	.613	–	7-3
Miami	35	28	.556	3½	8-2
Philadelphia	30	32	.484	8	5-5
New York	30	33	.476	8½	3-7
Washington	25	36	.410	12½	3-7

Thursday's results

DODGERS 6, at Cincinnati 0
at ANGELS 3, Chicago 1
Baltimore 6, at Milwaukee 3
San Francisco 6, at Colorado 4
at Philadelphia 3, Detroit 2
at Atlanta 13, New York 10, 10 innings
Arizona at Washington, postponed

AL STANDINGS

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10
Texas	40	21	.656	–	7-3
Houston	36	27	.571	5	5-5
ANGELS	34	30	.531	7½	6-4
Seattle	30	31	.492	10	4-6
Oakland	14	50	.219	27½	4-6
Central	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**	**L10**
Minnesota	31	32	.492	–	4-6
Cleveland	29	33	.468	1½	6-4
Chicago	28	36	.438	3½	6-4
Detroit	26	34	.433	3½	2-8
Kansas City	18	44	.290	12½	3-7
East	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**	**L10**
Tampa Bay	46	19	.708	–	7-3
Baltimore	38	24	.613	6½	5-5
New York	37	27	.578	8½	6-4
Toronto	36	28	.563	9½	8-2
Boston	31	32	.492	14	3-7

Thursday's results

at ANGELS 3, Chicago Cubs 1
at Tampa Bay 4, Minnesota 2
Baltimore 6, at Milwaukee 3
Chicago 6, at New York 5, 1st game
at New York 3, Chicago 0, 2nd game
at Philadelphia 3, Detroit 2
at Toronto 3, Houston 2
at Cleveland 10, Boston 3

TODAY'S GAMES

NATIONAL LEAGUE >>>

MATCHUP	W-L	ERA	TIME
Dodgers/Grove (R)	0-2	8.14	4 p.m.
PHI/Suárez (L)	1-2	5.47	
NY/Megill (R)	5-3	4.40	4 p.m.
PIT/Hill (L)	5-5	4.41	
WAS/Gray (R)	4-5	3.09	4:15 p.m.
ATL/SmithShawver (R)	0-0	0.00	
CIN/Lively (R)	3-3	3.03	5:15 p.m.
STL/Montgomery (L)	2-7	4.23	
SD/Darvish (R)	4-4	4.10	5:30 p.m.
COL/Gomber (L)	4-4	6.99	
CHI/Stroman (R)	6-4	2.39	7:15 p.m
SF/DeSclafani (R)	4-5	3.97	

AMERICAN LEAGUE >>>

MATCHUP	W-L	ERA	TIME
SEA/Castillo (R)	4-3	2.55	6:30 p.m.
Angels/Ohtani (R)	5-2	3.30	
TEX/Heaney (L)	4-3	4.03	3:30 p.m.
TB/Glasnow (R)	0-0	3.72	
BOS/Whitlock (R)	2-2	5.61	4 p.m.
NY/Cole (R)	7-0	2.82	
KC/Lynch (L)	0-1	4.36	4 p.m.
BAL/Wells (R)	4-2	3.29	
MIN/Gray (R)	4-1	2.15	4 p.m.
TOR/Kikuchi (L)	6-2	4.40	
HOU/Javier (R)	7-1	2.84	4 p.m.
CLE/Allen (L)	3-2	2.76	

INTERLEAGUE >>>

MATCHUP	W-L	ERA	TIME
ARI/Kelly (R)	7-3	2.80	3:30 p.m.
DET/Lorenzen (R)	2-2	3.21	
Miami/Pérez (R)	3-1	2.25	5 p.m.
CHI/Cease (R)	3-3	4.63	
OAK/Medina (R)	0-5	8.19	5 p.m.
MIL/Houser (R)	2-1	3.45	

ODDS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Favorite		Underdog	
DODGERS	OFF	at Philadelphia	OFF
N.Y. Mets	-120	at Pittsburgh	+102
at Atlanta	-200	Washington	+168
at St. Louis	-174	Cincinnati	+146
San Diego	-180	at Colorado	+152
Chicago Cubs	-118	at San Francisco	+100

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Favorite		Underdog	
at ANGELS	-130	Seattle	+110
at Tampa Bay	-174	Texas	+146
at N.Y. Yankees	-168	Boston	+142
at Baltimore	-172	Kansas City	+144
Minnesota	-118	at Toronto	+100
Houston	-126	at Cleveland	+108

INTERLEAGUE

Favorite		Underdog	
Arizona	-142	at Detroit	+120
at Milwaukee	-235	Oakland	+194
at Chicago White Sox	-142	Miami	+120

LEADERS

NATIONAL LEAGUE >>>

Through Wednesday

Player	G	AB	R	H	Avg.
Arráez, Miami	58	216	26	87	.403
Acuña, Atlanta	61	245	52	81	.331
Freeman, DODGERS	62	250	52	82	.328
Castellanos, Philadelphia	61	238	38	75	.315
Gurriel, Arizona	53	200	30	62	.310
Meneses, Washington	58	239	26	73	.305
Díaz, Colorado	54	184	21	56	.304
Estrada, San Francisco	49	203	30	61	.300
Carroll, Arizona	59	207	43	62	.300
De La Cruz, Miami	59	214	29	64	.299

AMERICAN LEAGUE >>>

Player	G	AB	R	H	Avg.
Bichette, Toronto	63	269	36	89	.331
Yoshida, Boston	54	211	34	67	.318
Díaz, Tampa Bay	52	196	41	62	.316
Franco, Tampa Bay	59	234	38	72	.308
Urshela, ANGELS	58	203	22	62	.305
Dubón, Houston	48	191	33	58	.304
Hays, Baltimore	55	201	30	61	.303
Semien, Texas	61	254	55	76	.299
Greene, Detroit	52	203	29	60	.296
Merrifield, Toronto	56	203	28	60	.296

JEFF DEAN Associated Press

DODGERS starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw, who collected his 2,900th career strikeout, delivers against the Cincinnati Reds.

Kershaw pitches deep to help lift Dodgers

[**Dodgers,** from B10]

And in his 32 outings of seven-plus innings and nine-plus strikeouts, the Dodgers have a 31-1 record.

"Our job as starting pitchers is to pitch deep into games, get those seven-, eight-inning games, reset the bullpen," said Kershaw, who assured Roberts after the sixth inning he was good for one more frame even with his pitch count at 88.

"It all starts with starting pitching, it does," Kershaw added. "It might be a little biased to say, but at the end of the day, if you have got good starting pitching, you're going to be in the game. And the way our offense is swinging the bats, we just need to do our job. It felt good to do my job today."

The problem for the Dodgers: Few of their other starters have followed the future Hall of Famer's lead.

Excluding Kershaw, the rest of the team's rotation is averaging fewer than five innings per appearance. Julio Urías, their opening day starter, has pitched into the seventh only twice. Tony Gonsolin, an All-Star last year, hasn't done it once.

Granted, some of the numbers have been skewed by Noah Syndergaard, who was having a dismal season before being placed on the injured list Thursday with a finger blister — though the move will serve just as much as a mental reset for the struggling right-hander.

Still, for a Dodgers team that is playing without right-hander Dustin May, counting on two rookies in its rotation and battling inconsistency in the bullpen, more starts like this from other veteran arms could help rectify their unexpected pitching problems.

"It seems like every time Clayton is taking the mound, it's a must-win or he's gotta go deep and cover innings," Roberts said. "For him to get through seven and for us to use one reliever today" — Tayler Scott pitched the final two innings of the Dodgers' fifth shutout — "it was enormous."

Kershaw wasn't alone in arresting the Dodgers' season-worst losing streak.

David Peralta had four hits and two RBIs, raising his batting average since May 8 to .344.

"It was a matter of time until everything started coming the way I wanted," said Peralta, who started the season in an extended slump.

Freddie Freeman also had two RBIs on two hits. Chris Taylor matched his home run total from last season, collecting his 10th on a solo shot.

And Austin Barnes added his first RBI and extra-base hit in a month.

Barnes also escaped a potential injury in the ninth inning. Despite getting drilled by a pitch on his right hand following an intentional walk to James Outman with two outs — Kershaw was not a fan of that sequence, calling the decision by Reds manager David Bell "pretty ridiculous" given the game was all but over — Barnes said X-rays came back clean.

"It didn't feel too good," Barnes told reporters in front of his locker. "But it seems like it's all right."

The catcher then quickly turned the conversation back toward Kershaw, praising a performance the Dodgers are hoping the rest of their staff can emulate more consistently as they continue to seek improvements on the mound.

"He's kind of the stopper for us," Barnes said. "We had a couple tough losses, obviously. It's a long season. Games like that are going to happen. You've got to keep moving.

"And to get momentum back on our side with what Kersh did was good."

DODGERS 6, REDS 0

Streak	Won 1	**This month**	2-4
Home	20-10	**Road**	16-17
Division	12-7	**Interleague**	4-5

Next: Today at Philadelphia, 4 PDT

TV/Radio: SportsNet LA/570, 1020

Dodgers	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.	Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.
Betts rf	5	1	1	0	.255	Newman 1b	3	0	1	0	.271
Frman 1b	2	1	2	2	.333	McLain ss	4	0	2	0	.354
Martinez dh	5	0	0	0	.269	India 2b	4	0	1	0	.279
Muncy 3b	4	0	0	0	.202	DLCruz 3b	4	0	1	0	.364
Peralta lf	5	0	4	2	.261	Steer lf	4	0	0	0	.286
Vargas 2b	5	0	1	0	.233	Stphnsn dh	4	0	0	0	.242
Taylor ss	5	1	2	1	.210	Hopkins rf	4	0	0	0	.214
Outman cf	2	2	1	0	.232	Barrero cf	3	0	1	0	.227
Barnes c	4	1	1	1	.103	Casali c	2	0	0	0	.167
Smith c	0	0	0	0	.305	Totals	32	0	6	0	
Totals	37	6	12	6							

Dodgers	003	300	000 – 6	12	0
Cincinnati	000	000	000 – 0	6	0

Walks—Dodgers 5: Freeman 2, Muncy 1, Outman 2. Cincinnati 2: Newman 1, Casali 1. **Strikeouts**—Dodgers 4: Martinez 1, Muncy 1, Vargas 1, Taylor 1. Cincinnati 11: Newman 1, McLain 2, De La Cruz 3, Stephenson 1, Hopkins 2, Barrero 2. **LOB**—Dodgers 13, Cincinnati 7. **2B**—Barnes (2), Newman (9), McLain (7). **HR**—Taylor (10), off Cruz. **RBIs**—Freeman 2 (41), Peralta 2 (22), Taylor (22), Barnes (4). **SB**—De La Cruz (1). **SF**—Freeman.

Runners left in scoring position—Dodgers 5 (Betts 2, Vargas, Barnes 2); Cincinnati 5 (Hopkins, McLain, De La Cruz, Newman, Stephenson). **RISP**—Dodgers 4 for 8; Cincinnati 0 for 9.

Runners moved up—Barnes, Taylor, India. **GIDP**—Vargas, India.

DP—Dodgers 1 (Taylor, Vargas, Freeman); Cincinnati 1 (India, Newman).

Dodgers	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Kershaw, W, 8-4	7	5	0	0	2	9	98	2.95
Scott	2	1	0	0	0	2	28	0.00
Cincinnati	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**NP**	**ERA**
Ashcraft, L, 3-5	2⅔	3	3	3	2	1	46	6.78
Cruz	1⅓	3	3	3	1	0	26	7.29
Young	1	1	0	0	0	1	15	2.84
Salazar	2	3	0	0	1	1	37	5.79
Gibaut	2	2	0	0	1	1	35	3.26

Inherited runners-scored—Cruz 2-0. **IBB**—by Gibaut (Outman). **HBP**—Ashcraft 2 (Outman,Betts), Gibaut (Barnes).

U—Ron Kulpa, Jansen Visconti, Carlos Torres, Brock Ballou. **T**—2:38. **Tickets sold**—24,323 (43,891).

RAYS 4, TWINS 2

Yonny Chirinos yielded one run in his first appearance since April 29, and Harold Ramírez homered in a three-run fourth as Tampa Bay gave Minnesota its season-high fifth straight loss.

Minnesota	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.	Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.
Castro 2b	4	0	1	0	.256	Lowe rf	4	0	2	0	.295
Kirilloff 1b	4	0	2	0	.307	Franco ss	4	1	0	0	.303
Polanco dh	1	0	0	0	.250	Arozarena lf	1	1	0	0	.289
1-Solano dh	3	0	0	0	.268	Raley 1b	3	1	1	1	.257
Correa ss	4	1	2	1	.210	Ramírez dh	3	1	1	2	.295
Larnach lf	2	0	0	0	.203	Paredes 3b	3	0	0	0	.259
a-Farmer 2b	2	0	0	0	.270	Walls 2b	3	0	0	0	.208
Lewis 3b	4	0	0	0	.182	Bethncrt c	3	0	0	0	.237
Kepler rf	2	0	0	0	.189	Margot cf	3	0	0	0	.240
b-Garlick lf	1	0	0	0	.192	Totals	27	4	4	3	
Vázquez c	3	0	0	0	.236						
Taylor cf	3	1	1	1	.228						
Totals	33	2	6	2							

Minnesota	000	100	010 – 2	6	1
Tampa Bay	000	301	00x – 4	4	0

a-grounded out for Larnach in the 6th. b-struck out for Kepler in the 7th. 1-ran for Polanco in the 1st.

Walks— Tampa Bay 2: Arozarena 2. **Strikeouts**—Minnesota 7: Larnach 1, Farmer 1, Lewis 2, Kepler 1, Garlick 1, Taylor 1. Tampa Bay 10: Raley 2, Ramírez 2, Paredes 1, Walls 2, Bethancourt 2, Margot 1 **E**—Jax (1). **LOB**—Minnesota 4, Tampa Bay 1. **2B**—Kirilloff (5). **3B**—Raley (2). **HR**—Correa (7), off Chirinos; Taylor (8), off Poche; Ramírez (9), off Ober. **RBIs**—Correa (25), Taylor (19), Raley (25), Ramírez 2 (29).

Runners left in scoring position—Minnesota 2 (Larnach, Farmer); Tampa Bay 1 (Ramírez). **RISP**—Minnesota 0 for 4; Tampa Bay 1 for 3.

Runners moved up—Solano. **GIDP**—Franco.

DP—Minnesota 1 (Correa, Kirilloff).

Minnesota	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Ober, L, 3-3	5⅓	3	4	3	2	7	88	2.61
Jax	⅔	0	0	0	0	2	10	4.15
De León	2	1	0	0	0	1	26	2.31
Tampa Bay	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**NP**	**ERA**
Chirinos, W, 3-1	5⅔	5	1	1	0	4	65	2.60
Diekman, H, 4	1⅓	0	0	0	0	2	18	3.86
Poche, H, 10	1	1	1	1	0	0	12	2.28
Adam, S, 10-14	1	0	0	0	0	1	13	2.96

Inherited runners-scored—Jax 2-1, Diekman 1-0.

U—Chris Segal, Ben May, Jeff Nelson, CB Bucknor. **T**—2:07. **Tickets sold**—12,584 (25,025).

GIANTS 6, ROCKIES 4

Brandon Crawford had a pinch-hit RBI double to spark a three-run ninth and San Francisco beat Colorado for the 11th straight time and improved to 16-3 at Coors Field since Sept. 6, 2021.

San Fran.	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.	Colorado	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.
Wade Jr. 1b	4	0	0	1	.282	Blkmn dh	5	1	1	0	.272
Estrada 2b	4	1	1	1	.300	Profar lf	5	1	2	0	.247
Pederson dh	5	0	1	1	.228	McMhn 3b	3	1	1	1	.258
Davis 3b	5	1	2	0	.291	Díaz c	5	0	1	0	.302
Conforto rf	3	1	2	2	.251	Grichuk rf	4	1	0	0	.325
Haniger lf	4	0	0	0	.222	Jones 1b	3	0	3	2	.366
Sabol c	2	1	1	0	.254	Tovar ss	4	0	1	1	.248
Slater cf	3	0	1	0	.375	Castro 2b	3	0	0	0	.270
b-Ystrzski cf	0	1	0	0	.253	a-Trejo 2b	1	0	0	0	.248
Schmitt ss	3	0	0	0	.287	Doyle cf	3	0	0	0	.215
c-Crwfrd ss	1	1	1	1	.195	Totals	36	4	9	4	
Totals	34	6	9	6							

San Francisco	100	002	003 – 6	9	1
Colorado	400	000	000 – 4	9	1

a-flied out for Castro in the 8th. b-walked for Slater in the 9th. c-doubled for Schmitt in the 9th.

Walks—San Francisco 5: Estrada 1, Conforto 1, Sabol 2, Yastrzemski 1. Colorado 3: McMahon 1, Jones 1, Doyle 1. **Strikeouts**—San Francisco 10: Wade Jr. 1, Estrada 2, Pederson 1, Davis 1, Conforto 1, Haniger 1, Sabol 1, Slater 2. Colorado 10: Blackmon 1, Profar 1, McMahon 1, Díaz 2, Grichuk 2, Tovar 1, Castro 2. **2B**—Crawford (6), Tovar (18), Jones (4), Díaz (13). **3B**—Davis (1). **HR**—Estrada (7), off Anderson; Conforto (12), off Anderson. **RBIs**—Estrada (19), Conforto 2 (31), Crawford (15), Wade Jr. (20), Pederson (19), McMahon (36), Jones 2 (10), Tovar (25). **DP**—Colorado 1 (McMahon, Jones, McMahon).

San Francisco	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Cobb	5	8	4	4	1	7	83	3.01
Ta.Rogers	1	0	0	0	0	2	13	3.38
Ty.Rogers	1	1	0	0	2	0	14	1.74
Alexander, W, 5-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	3.57
Doval, S, 16-17	1	0	0	0	0	1	12	1.95
Colorado	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**NP**	**ERA**
Anderson	5⅓	6	3	3	1	7	92	2.67
Carasiti, H, 1	1⅓	0	0	0	2	1	26	4.76
Bird, H, 4	1	1	0	0	0	0	11	3.05
Jhsn, L, 0-3, BS, 11-13	⅔	2	3	3	2	1	30	7.50
Bard	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	4	1.02

IBB—by Ty.Rogers (Jones). **HBP**—Cobb (Grichuk), Doval (McMahon).

T—2:46. **Tickets sold**—30,372 (50,144).

PHILLIES 3, TIGERS 2

Zack Wheeler took a no-hitter into the eighth, when Detroit's Tyler Nevin hit a one-out single, before Kody Clemens hit a game-ending single as Philadelphia rallied for its fifth win in a row.

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.	Philadelphia	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.
McKitry rf	4	0	0	0	.265	Schwarber lf	3	1	0	0	.171
Báez ss	4	1	1	0	.220	CastIlns rf	3	0	1	0	.315
Torkelson 1b	4	0	0	0	.223	Harper dh	3	1	1	1	.296
Maton dh	3	0	1	1	.166	Turner ss	3	1	0	0	.237
Haase c	4	0	0	0	.213	Realmuto c	4	0	0	0	.249
Baddoo cf-rf	2	0	0	0	.234	Stott 2b	4	0	1	0	.285
Schoop 3b	3	0	0	0	.196	Marsh cf	3	0	1	1	.269
1-Mrisnick cf	0	1	0	0	.188	Clemens 1b	4	0	2	1	.267
Nevin lf	4	0	1	0	.128	Harrison 3b	3	0	0	0	.197
Short 2b	3	0	1	1	.291	Totals	30	3	6	3	
Totals	31	2	4	2							

Detroit	000	000	011 – 2	4	1
Philadelphia	000	001	002 – 3	6	2

Two outs when winning run scored. 1-ran for Schoop in the 8th.

Walks—Detroit 3: Baddoo 2, 1-Marisnick 1. Philadelphia 3: Schwarber 1, Castellanos 1, Turner 1.

Strikeouts—Detroit 9: Báez 1, Torkelson 3, Maton 1, Haase 2, Schoop 2. Philadelphia 9: Schwarber 1, Castellanos 1, Harper 1, Realmuto 2, Stott 2, Marsh 2.

E—Báez (8), Harrison (2), Kimbrel (1). **LOB**—Detroit 6, Philadelphia 6. **2B**—Harper (9). **RBIs**—Short (10), Maton (21), Harper (10), Marsh (26), Clemens (11). **SF**—Harper, Marsh.

Runners left in scoring position—Detroit 2 (Nevin 2); Philadelphia 0. **RISP**—Detroit 2 for 4; Philadelphia 2 for 3. **GIDP**—McKinstry, Harper.

DP—Detroit 1 (Torkelson, Báez); Philadelphia 1 (Turner, Clemens).

Detroit	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Holton	1	0	0	0	1	1	13	2.25
Olson	5	3	1	1	1	3	75	2.70
Shreve	1	0	0	0	0	3	23	4.70
Foley	1	0	0	0	0	1	16	1.37
Lnge, L, 3-2, BS, 10-12	⅔	3	2	2	1	1	22	3.20
Philadelphia	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**NP**	**ERA**
Wheeler	7⅓	1	1	0	1	8	108	3.91
Domínguez, BS, 0-2	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	4	3.28
Kimbrel, W, 4-1	1	2	1	1	2	1	34	5.25

Inherited runners-scored—Domínguez 2-1. **HBP**—Wheeler (Maton).

U—Manny Gonzalez, Quinn Wolcott, Junior Valentine, Adrian Johnson. **T**—2:41. **Tickets sold**—29,028 (42,901).

GUARDIANS 10, RED SOX 3

José Ramírez homered in his first three at-bats, and from both sides of the plate, to power Cleveland. Ramírez had two chances for a fourth homer but struck out and grounded out.

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.	Cleve.	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.
Duran cf	5	0	2	1	.278	Kwan lf	3	2	1	0	.256
Yoshida lf	5	0	1	0	.315	Rosrio ss	5	0	1	0	.236
Turner dh	4	0	0	0	.256	Arias ss	0	0	0	0	.204
Devers 3b	3	0	0	0	.243	Rmírz 3b	5	3	3	5	.267
Casas 1b	4	1	2	1	.201	Frman 3b	0	0	0	0	.250
Refsnyder rf	2	0	0	0	.281	Naylor 1b	3	1	2	0	.277
Arroyo 2b	4	1	1	0	.259	Bell dh	4	1	1	0	.231
McGuire c	3	1	1	0	.286	Gimnz 2b	4	1	2	2	.245
Hernndz ss	4	0	1	1	.229	Straw cf	4	1	1	1	.232
Totals	34	3	8	3		Brennn rf	4	1	2	2	.267
						Gallghr c	4	0	2	0	.143
						Totals	36	10	15	10	

Boston	000	011	001 – 3	8	0
Cleveland	102	005	02x – 10	15	0

Walks—Boston 4: Devers 1, Refsnyder 2, McGuire 1. Cleveland 2: Kwan 1, Naylor 1. **Strikeouts**—Boston 7: Duran 1, Turner 1, Casas 2, Arroyo 1, McGuire 1, Hernández 1. Cleveland 2: Ramírez 1, Naylor 1. **LOB**—Boston 8, Cleveland 5. **2B**—McGuire (8), Arroyo (7), Hernández (10), Bell (13), Giménez (11). **3B**—Straw (2). **HR**—Casas (7), off Civale; Ramírez 2 (8), off Dermody; Ramírez (9), off Kluber; Brennan (4), off Kluber. **RBIs**—Duran (23), Casas (18), Hernández (26), Ramírez 5 (36), Giménez 2 (16), Straw (11), Brennan 2 (18). **SB**—Refsnyder (3). **Runners left in scoring position**—Boston 5 (Arroyo, Casas, Yoshida 2, Turner); Cleveland 2 (Ramírez, Straw). **RISP**—Boston 2 for 11; Cleveland 3 for 7. **DP**—Boston 2 (Hernández, Arroyo, Casas; Arroyo, Devers, Arroyo, Casas); Cleveland 1 (Rosario, Giménez, Naylor).

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Dermody, L, 0-1	4	4	3	3	1	1	76	6.75
Kluber	3⅓	11	7	7	1	1	73	7.12
Bernardino	⅔	0	0	0	0	0	2	2.45
Cleveland	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**NP**	**ERA**
Civale, W, 2-1	5⅔	4	2	2	2	3	93	2.31
Karinchak, H, 12	⅓	0	0	0	1	0	9	3.71
De Los Santos	1	1	0	0	1	2	15	3.38
Curry	2	3	1	1	0	2	31	2.59

Inherited runners-scored—Bernardino 2-1. **HBP**—Dermody (Kwan). **WP**—Civale.

U—Andy Fletcher, Alex MacKay, Stu Scheuwater, Malachi Moore. **T**—2:36. **Tickets sold**—21,473 (34,788).

WHITE SOX 6, YANKEES 5

Eloy Jiménez hit a go-ahead home run in the seventh inning for Chicago in the doubleheader opener. Yankees starter Luis Severino served up three homers for the second consecutive start.

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.	New York	AB	R	H	BI	Avg.
Anderson ss	5	0	1	0	.265	Calhoun rf	4	1	2	3	.243
Benintendi lf	5	0	0	0	.266	K.-Falefa cf	1	0	1	0	.229
Robert Jr. cf	5	2	3	1	.268	Torres 2b	4	0	0	0	.249
Jiménez rf	4	1	1	2	.258	Rizzo 1b	5	0	0	0	.283
Frazier rf	0	0	0	0	.231	Stanton dh	3	0	0	0	.242
Moncada 3b	4	1	1	1	.246	Bauers lf-rf	4	1	2	0	.243
Vaughn 1b	2	1	0	0	.247	LeMahieu 3b	3	0	0	0	.235
Burger dh	4	1	2	2	.272	Cabrera ss	4	0	1	1	.200
González 2b	3	0	0	0	.205	McKiny cf	4	1	1	0	.250
Zavala c	4	0	0	0	.163	Higashioka c	3	2	2	1	.223
Totals	36	6	8	6		a-Donaldson	0	0	0	0	.185
						1-Volpe	0	0	0	0	.191
						Totals	35	5	9	5	

Chicago	022	000	200 – 6	8	0
New York	020	210	000 – 5	9	1

a-walked for Higashioka in 9th. 1-ran for Donaldson in 9th.

Walks—Chicago 3: Jiménez 1, Vaughn 1, González 1. New York 4: Torres 1, Stanton 1, LeMahieu 1, Donaldson 1. **Strikeouts**—Chicago 10: Jiménez 2, Moncada 3, Vaughn 2, Burger 1, González 1, Zavala 1. New York 6: Torres 1, Stanton 1, Bauers 1, LeMahieu 1, Cabrera 2. **E**—Cabrera (4). **LOB**—Chicago 7, New York 7. **2B**—Burger (8), Robert Jr. (17), Higashioka (6), Bauers 2 (5). **3B**—McKinney (1). **HR**—Burger (13), off Severino; Robert Jr. (14), off Severino; Moncada (3), off Severino; Jiménez (6), off King; Calhoun (4), off Lynn. **RBIs**—Burger 2 (31), Robert Jr. (31), Moncada (13), Jiménez 2 (24), Higashioka (16), Calhoun 3 (15), Cabrera (18). **SB**—Robert Jr. (3), González 2 (6). **DP**—Chicago 1 (González, Anderson, Vaughn).

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lynn	5	8	5	5	3	4	98	6.72
Santos,

Nuggets look to take control against Heat

Denver knows it must assert itself as Miami seeks to follow path of teams that trailed 2-1.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — Jimmy Butler showed up in plush blue slippers for what was officially called practice. Kyle Lowry was trying to distract him during an interview session. Nikola Jokic continued to say how he doesn't care about statistics. Jamal Murray talked about all the fun he's having.

At this point, there isn't a lot of off-day, on-court work for the Denver Nuggets and Miami Heat.

Game 4 of the NBA Finals is Friday night in Miami, and it'll be the only time in the series that there's just one day off between games. The Nuggets — behind a historic effort from Jokic and Murray — reclaimed the lead in the series with a 109-94 win Wednesday night, and could take a commanding 3-1 edge with a win in Game 4.

"It's a lot of fun. A lot of fun. We're all having fun," Murray said Thursday. "Trying to solve this puzzle together. We've all been dreaming about getting to this stage. We have vets in the league that haven't made it this far in their 15, 16 years of playing. So we don't want to take this opportunity for granted, knowing that this is not an everyday thing. It takes a lot of work to be here."

MIKE EHRMANN Getty Images

JAMAL MURRAY, left, of the Nuggets wrestles for the ball with Haywood Highsmith (24) and Caleb Martin of the Heat during the fourth quarter of Game 3.

Murray and Jokic each had 30-point triple-doubles in the Game 3 win, the first time that has ever happened in NBA history. Jokic had the first known game of at least 30 points, 20 rebounds and 10 assists in Finals history. As always, he greeted news of his latest statistical accomplishment with a resounding yawn, preferring instead to solely focus on what he called the chess game between the Heat and Nuggets.

"They are one move, we are another move," Jokic said. "I think this is the time where the players show what they've got."

NBA FINALS

Denver vs. Miami

Nuggets lead series 2-1

Gm 1	Denver 104, Miami 93
Gm 2	Miami 111, Denver 108
Gm 3	Denver 109, Miami 94
Gm 4	Tonight at Miami, 5:30
Gm 5	Monday at Denver, 5:30
Gm 6	Thursday at Miami, 5:30*
Gm 7	June 18 at Denver, 5*

All times p.m., PDT | **TV:** Ch. 7
* if necessary

For the Heat, trailing 2-1 in the series might not be all bad news. In the last 10 instances when a team held a 2-1 lead in the Finals, it did not win the series six of those times.

"Stay in the saddle, stay the course," Heat forward Kevin Love said of his team's approach. "That's the biggest thing we can do. We have a game plan that is proven to work. ... If anybody is capable of it, we are. Continue to drill, continue to stay true to our concept, no slip-ups. If we do that, we feel we can give ourselves a chance."

Murray and Jokic were tremendous, and Denver's 58-33 rebounding edge in Game 3 was not solely a byproduct of effort or lack thereof. But there were also things Heat coach Erik Spoelstra believes are correctable for Friday.

"The more experience you have, the more perspective you have about how difficult this really is," Spoelstra said. "These are extremely difficult challenges. You end up being even more grateful for the opportunities to compete at the highest level. That's what we all want. This is the stage that you want to be able to compete and have everything decided between those four lines and find out how your team stacks up.

"But it is tough. ... It's the highest level of competition."

The Heat's season has gone this way almost from opening night, a never-ending back-and-forth between ups and downs, win a few, lose a few, all capped by a postseason run that took a No. 8 seed to the NBA Finals. Win on Friday, and the series is tied. That's all Miami can ask for right now.

"We're going to come out with a lot more energy," Butler said. "We're going to compete at a high level. We're going to get one at home."

REBECCA BLACKWELL Associated Press

IVAN BARBASHEV, left, of Vegas chases the puck as Florida defenseman Marc Staal reaches with his stick to slow him down. With under five minutes left in the third period, Barbashev hit the crossbar on a shot.

Florida knocks off Vegas in OT

[**Elliott,** from B10]
in the first round.

"It's amazing. I'm not going to lie," Panthers captain Aleksander Barkov said. "I've been here for a long time and this is the best time in my life to play in front of that crowd and battling for something you've been dreaming of since literally I was born. It's huge."

Florida took the lead in the first period in its first Stanley Cup Final game at FLA Live Arena, which became its home in 1998 after the team left Miami Arena. But Vegas pulled even during a four-on-three power play, which has been a formidable weapon for the team during the Final.

Panthers defenseman Brandon Montour, who began his career with the Ducks and was traded to Buffalo in 2019, recorded his first point of the Final with a long-range shot through traffic that sailed past Hill at 4:08 of the first period.

The goal continued a good week for Montour, who became a father for the first time Sunday when his wife, Ryian, gave birth to a son, Kai. Tkachuk earned the primary assist with a fine pass that Montour turned into his seventh goal of the playoffs.

Tkachuk left for the locker room after taking a hit from Kolesar not long afterward, and he didn't emerge for the rest of the period. The Golden Knights pulled even at 16:03, when Mark Stone tipped home a long shot by Jonathan Marchessault.

In a game that was closely called by referees Dan O'Rourke and Kelly Sutherland, the Golden Knights gained a power play at 14:13 of the second period when Barkov was penalized for interference, and Vegas cashed in to take a 2-1 lead.

Marchessault ripped home a one-timer from the left circle, on a slick setup by Jack Eichel, at 14:59 and grabbed a share of the postseason goal-scoring lead, with his 13th.

Tkachuk tied it late in the third period while in the thick of the action around the net.

"That's where I spend most of my time," he said of his goal, produced when he pounced on the rebound of a blast by Verhaeghe. The Golden Knights gained a late power play that carried over into overtime, but they couldn't capitalize on it.

Vegas coach Bruce Cassidy said he hoped his team was "upset with certain things that transpired," such as being outnumbered around the net, but his players weren't distraught.

"We knew it was going to be tough," Stone said. "They're a resilient team. We want to be able to close games, but we'll regroup and be ready for the next one."

And they'll have to be ready for the rats and the resilience the Panthers bring.

LYNNE SLADKY Associated Press

ANTHONY DUCLAIR (10) of Florida is defended by Vegas goaltender Adin Hill in front of the net during the second period. Hill stopped 20 of 23 shots.

STANLEY CUP FINAL

WC2 Florida vs. P1 Vegas

Golden Knights lead series 2-1

Gm 1	Vegas 5, Florida 2
Gm 2	Vegas 7, Florida 2
Gm 3	Florida 3, Vegas 2 (OT)
Gm 4	Saturday at Florida, 5
Gm 5	Tuesday at Vegas, 5
Gm 6	June 16 at Florida, 5*
Gm 7	June 19 at Vegas, 5*

All times PDT, p.m.; **TV:** TNT
* if necessary

PANTHERS 3, GOLDEN KNIGHTS 2, OT

Vegas	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0–2**
Florida	**1**	**0**	**1**	**1–3**

FIRST PERIOD–1. Florida, Montour 7 (Tkachuk, E.Staal), 4:08. 2. Vegas, Stone 8 (Theodore, Marchessault), 16:03 (pp). **Penalties**–Carrier, V (High Sticking), 6:01; M.Staal, FLA (Tripping), 12:14; Carrier, V (Boarding), 15:17; Gudas, FLA (Cross Checking), 15:17; Duclair, FLA (Tripping), 15:40.

SECOND PERIOD–3. Vegas, Marchessault 13 (Stone, Eichel), 14:59 (pp). **Penalties**–Carrier, V (Tripping), 0:24; Ekblad, FLA (Holding), 4:56; McNabb, V (Hooking), 8:00; Barkov, FLA (Interference), 14:13; Martinez, V (Interference), 16:26; Lundell, FLA (Slashing), 19:22.

THIRD PERIOD–4. Florida, Tkachuk 11 (Verhaeghe, Ekblad), 17:47. **Penalties**–Eichel, V (Hooking), 7:22; Barbashev, V (Roughing), 10:37; Gudas, FLA (Roughing), 10:37; Forsling, FLA (Tripping), 19:48.

OVERTIME–5. Florida, Verhaeghe 7 (Bennett, Forsling), 4:27. **Penalties**–None.

SHOTS ON GOAL–Vegas 6-13-6-2–27. Florida 5-8-9-1–23. Power-play conversions–Vegas 2 of 6; Florida 0 of 5. GOALIES–Vegas, Hill 9-4-0 (23 shots-20 saves). Florida, Bobrovsky 12-4-0 (27-26). A–19,735. T–3:00.

New addition Stevens excited for home debut

[**Sparks,** from B10]
weekly league games and travel for the EuroCup, the second-tier international competition for European clubs, Stevens' back started aching.

The toll of year-round play adds "wear and tear" to players' bodies, Stevens acknowledged.

"I love basketball so I'm pushing through," Stevens said. "But I just think my body needed some time to rest after overseas."

In her season debut against Seattle on Tuesday, Stevens had four points and three rebounds in 15 minutes off the bench. Having participated in only minimal five-on-five contact periods leading up to the game, she had three turnovers. The Sparks turned the ball over a season-high 21 times while squandering a 21-point, first-quarter lead in the 66-63 Seattle victory, the Storm's first of the season.

"Azurá obviously impacts the game with her length," Sparks coach Curt Miller told reporters after the game.

"She has a unique ability to fly around the floor, but you know you see someone that hasn't played for a while ... so just a little rusty."

Stevens, whose open personality and broad smile make her an ideal cultural fit for the new-look Sparks, said she put extra pressure on herself during the much-anticipated debut.

She was so focused on the game plan that she wasn't smiling the way fans have grown accustomed to seeing.

But teammates, from former most valuable player Nneka Ogwumike to rookie Zia Cooke, propped her up with positive feedback. It's exactly the type of environment Stevens wanted when she signed up for the Sparks' rebuild.

Injuries interrupted most of her WNBA career, including a knee injury that cut short a promising 2020 season. Teams still clamored for the former WNBA all-rookie honoree after she proved her potential by starting every postseason game during the Sky's 2021 championship run.

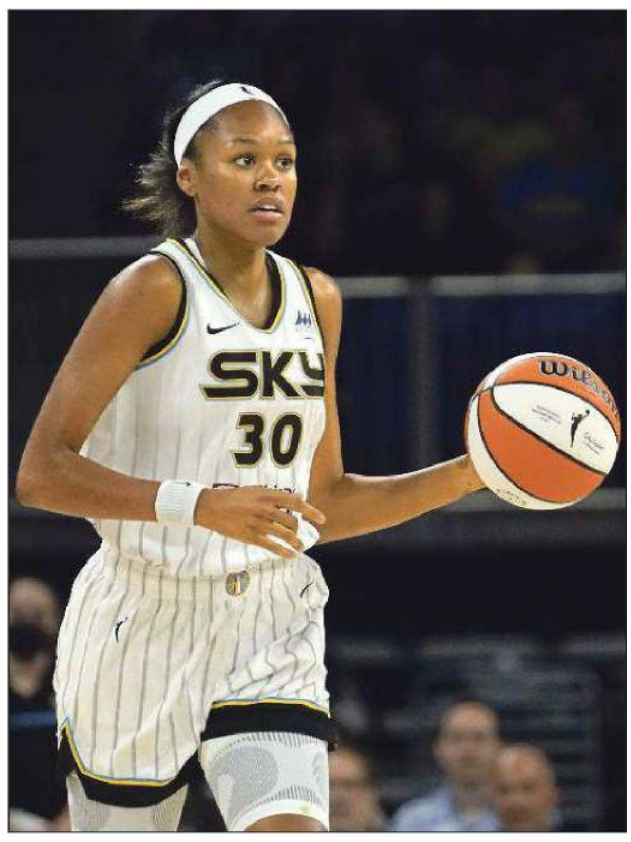
Sparks general manager Karen Bryant called Stevens the team's No. 1 free-agent target during the offseason after she averaged 10.6 points and 3.9 rebounds last year.

Stevens envisioned helping turn around the struggling franchise after a two-year playoff drought. Watching the first three weeks of the season from the bench hasn't diminished that hope.

"Since I got here, the team's been great," Stevens said. "The attitudes all around are really positive and joyful and I'm a positive and joyful person, so I've loved it."

The former Duke and Connecticut star's positive personality has helped endear her to fans all over the world. She made a point to connect with supporters at each of her international stops, and she knows how she can make the best first impression on L.A. fans this weekend.

"I'm really excited just to play in front of them and most importantly, to get this win on Friday," Stevens said. "That's the main thing."



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST Associated Press

AZURÁ STEVENS played for the Sky last year and will make her Sparks home debut against them.

THE DAY IN SPORTS

Belmont Stakes in doubt amid poor air quality

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Saturday's running of the Belmont Stakes was downgraded from probable to possible after the state of New York suspended racing, training and workouts Thursday amid poor air quality resulting from Canadian wildfires.

"The New York State Gaming Commission directed all tracks to stop all racing, training and workouts until further notice," the commission's statement said. "The Gaming Commission continues to monitor air quality and rely on guidance from veterinary expertise to ensure any decision to resume racing is based solely in the best interest of the horse population."

The air on Thursday was improved from what it was on Wednesday afternoon when it appeared as if there were a light orange lens over the sky.

Before the state order, the New York Racing Assn. canceled workouts and the first day of the three-day Belmont Stakes Racing Festival.

—John Cherwa

ETC.

UCLA's Donahue to get Rose Bowl statue

Terry Donahue, the walk-on defensive lineman who rose to become the winningest coach in UCLA football history, will be honored with the first statue inside the Rose Bowl.

The statue near the Bruins' locker room will be unveiled Oct. 27, one day before UCLA hosts Colorado. The statue will be surrounded by 151 bronze roses to signify each of Donahue's victories as the coach at UCLA. Donahue, who died in 2021, also won a record 98 Pac-10 Conference games while becoming the first person to appear in a Rose Bowl game as a player, assistant coach and coach.

The Donahue statue will be the fourth on Rose Bowl property, joining ones to commemorate **Jackie Robinson**, the 1999 U.S. Women's World Cup champions and broadcaster **Keith Jackson**.

— Ben Bolch

Jordy Bahl threw three innings of perfect relief and Oklahoma won its third straight Women's College World Series title and seventh overall, beating Florida State 3-1 for a two-game sweep in Oklahoma City. The Sooners finished 61-1 and extended their Division I-record winning streak to 53 games.

The Carolina Panthers have given **Bryce Young** the first-team reps in practice this week, a move that coach **Frank Reich** called the next step in the rookie quarterback's progression. ... The Denver Broncos agreed to a one-year deal with former Kansas City Chiefs edge rusher **Frank Clark**, according to the Associated Press, following third-year pro **Baron Browning's** knee operation. ... The Minnesota Vikings are parting ways with star running back **Dalvin Cook** for salary cap savings.

Jack Swarbrick will step down as Notre Dame's athletic director next year after a 16-year run. Notre Dame announced that NBC Sports chairman **Pete Bevacqua** will succeed Swarbrick.

Nebraska shot putter **Axelina Johansson** and javelin thrower **Rhema Otabor** each won individual titles at the NCAA outdoor championships in Austin, Texas.

Harvard became the third team in NCAA championship history to sweep the hammer in women's and men's after **Stephanie Ratcliffe** earned the women's title.

Virginia Tech's **Julia Fixsen** won the pole vault; Texas sophomore **Ackelia Smith** won her first national title in the long jump; **Everlyn Kemboi** of Utah Valley won the 10,000 meters for the program's first national title; and Texas' **Leo Neugebauer** broke the NCAA record in the men's decathlon with 8,836 points.

DeWanna Bonner scored a career-high 41 points to set a Sun franchise record and host Connecticut beat the previously unbeaten Las Vegas Aces 94-77.

Jack Draper will miss Wimbledon because of a shoulder injury that forced him out of the French Open.

Ryan Hunter-Reay will return to the IndyCar Series as **Conor Daly's** replacement at Ed Carpenter Racing, the team announced.

The Chicago Blackhawks agreed to a two-year, $8.5-million contract with forward **Andreas Athanasiou**.

The Nevada Senate adjourned without voting on a financing bill for a proposed $1.5-billion Las Vegas Strip stadium for the Oakland Athletics, extending the special legislative session into next week, amid negotiations over public funding for the project.

Christophe Ena Associated Press

KAROLINA MUCHOVA of the Czech Republic plays a shot against Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus during their semifinal match at the French Open. Muchova will face No. 1 Iga Swiatek, the defending champion, Saturday.

Final: Muchova to face Swiatek

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS — As it is, Karolina Muchova was the unseeded, unexpected participant in the French Open semifinals.

Then, dealing with cramping legs nearly three hours into the match, Muchova was just one point from losing to No. 2 Aryna Sabalenka, who entered Thursday with a 12-0 Grand Slam record in 2023, including an Australian Open title.

Muchova somehow worked her way out of that difficult situation, grabbing the last five games against an error-prone Sabalenka for a 7-6 (5), 6-7 (5), 7-5 victory at Roland Garros to reach her first major final at the last place she expected.

"A roller coaster," Muchova said.

In Saturday's title match, she will meet No. 1 Iga Swiatek, the defending champion, who got past No. 14 Beatriz Haddad Maia 6-2, 7-6 (7) on Thursday night. Swiatek is seeking a third title in Paris and fourth major championship in all, and her win in the semifinals assured the 22-year-old from Poland of remaining atop the WTA rankings.

Today's matches

French Open semifinals:

MEN

- No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz
  No. 3 Novak Djokovic
- No. 4 Casper Ruud
  No. 22 Alexander Zverev

At No. 43, Muchova is the fourth-lowest-ranked women's finalist in French Open history.

On the other hand, she is now 5-0 in her career against players ranked in the top three.

It was tough to decide which was more stunning: that Sabalenka lost — or the way she lost.

"I just tried to keep fighting and it worked," Muchova said. "I really don't know what happened."

Well, here are the basics: Sabalenka held a match point while ahead 5-2 in the third set, but Muchova erased that with a forehand winner.

That began a run in which Muchova collected 20 of the last 24 points.

"After that game, she kind of stepped in and started playing a little bit more aggressive, and I kind of lost my rhythm," was Sabalenka's summation. "Yeah, I wasn't there."

Until Saturday, this trip to Paris was far more complicated off the court for Sabalenka than on it, where all six of her opponents were unseeded.

The subject of Belarus' role in Russia's invasion of Ukraine — the attacks began in February 2022 and continue to this day — and Sabalenka's stance on the matter arose repeatedly, in part because she faced two Ukrainian opponents.

She was asked about the war following each of her first two victories, and Sabalenka refused to participate in standard post-match news conferences after her next two contests, saying she felt unsafe. She returned to speaking to the media after her quarterfinal win.

"Some challenges," Sabalenka said. "Emotional challenges."

Swiatek did not begin particularly well Thursday, getting broken at love in the first game.

But she quickly turned that set around. Then, in the second, the big-swinging, left-handed Haddad Maia took a 3-1 lead, before Swiatek got back on serve.

In the tiebreaker, Haddad Maia held a set point at 6-5, but she slapped a seemingly neutral ball into the net.

A few moments later, it was over, allowing Swiatek to improve to 60-13 in Grand Slam play for her career — the same record Serena Williams had after 73 matches at majors.

"It was stressful in some moments, so I'm happy that I was really solid and I was able to close it in the tiebreaker," Swiatek said. "It wasn't easy."

TENNIS RESULTS

$53.2-MILLION FRENCH OPEN
At Paris
Surface: Red clay

WOMEN'S SINGLES (semifinals)—Karolina Muchova, Czech Republic, d. Aryna Sabalenka (2), Belarus, 7-6 (5), 6-7 (5), 7-5; Iga Swiatek (1), Poland, d. Beatriz Haddad Maia (14), Brazil, 6-2, 7-6 (7).

MEN'S DOUBLES (semifinals)—Ivan Dodig, Croatia, and Austin Krajicek (4), d. Marcel Granollers, Spain-Horacio Zeballos (10), Argentina, 6-3, 7-6 (3); Sander Gille-Joran Vliegen, Belgium, d. Matwe Middelkoop, Netherlands-Andreas Mies (12), Germany, 6-4, 7-5.

MIXED DOUBLES (final)—Tim Puetz, Germany-Miyu Kato, Japan, d. Michael Venus, New Zealand-Bianca Andreescu, Canada, 4-6, 6-4, 10-6.

PRO CALENDAR

	FRI 9	SAT 10	SUN 11	MON 12	TUE 13
DODGERS	**at Philadelphia** 4 SNLA	**at Philadelphia** 1 SNLA	**at Philadelphia** 1 SNLA		**CHICAGO WHITE SOX** 7 MLB
ANGELS	**SEATTLE** 6:30 Apple TV+	**SEATTLE** 7 BSW	**SEATTLE** 7 BSW	**at Texas** 5 BSW	**at Texas** 5 BSW
GALAXY			**at St. Louis** 10 a.m. Ch. 11		
LAFC		**at Houston** 5:30 Apple TV			
ANGEL CITY		**at Washington** 4 BSSC			
SPARKS	**CHICAGO** 7 Ion		**at Minnesota** 4 SpecSN		

Shade denotes home game.

TODAY ON THE AIR

TIME	EVENT	ON THE AIR
AUTO RACING		
5 p.m.	NHRA, New England Nationals, round 1	**TV:** FS1
BASEBALL		
4 p.m.	Dodgers at Philadelphia	**TV:** SNLA **R:** 570, 1020
4 p.m.	Boston at New York Yankees	**TV:** MLB
6:30 p.m.	Seattle at Angels	**TV:** Apple TV+ **R:** 830, 1220
BASKETBALL		
5 p.m.	WNBA, Phoenix at Dallas	**TV:** Ion
5:30 p.m.	NBA Finals, Denver at Miami, Game 4	**TV:** 7, ESPND
7 p.m.	WNBA, Chicago at Sparks	**TV:** Ion
BOXING		
6 p.m.	Light-heavyweights, Ali Izmailov vs. Charles Foster; Richard Vansiclen vs. Juan Carrillo	**TV:** Showtime
COLLEGE BASEBALL: NCAA SUPER REGIONALS		
9 a.m.	Duke vs. Virginia	**TV:** ESPN2
2 p.m.	Texas Christian vs. Indiana State	**TV:** ESPNU
3 p.m.	South Carolina vs. Florida	**TV:** ESPN2
5 p.m.	Oral Roberts vs. Oregon	**TV:** ESPNU
COLLEGE TRACK AND FIELD		
6 p.m.	NCAA Outdoor Championships, men's events	**TV:** ESPN2
GOLF		
4 a.m.	DP World Tour, Volvo Car Scandinavian, second round	**TV:** Golf
9 a.m.	ShopRite LPGA Classic, first round	**TV:** Golf
Noon	PGA, RBC Canadian Open, second round	**TV:** Golf
HORSE RACING		
9:30 a.m.	America's Day at the Races	**TV:** FS2
2 p.m.	America's Day at the Races	**TV:** FS1
SOCCER		
4:30 p.m.	Canada, York vs. Ottawa	**TV:** FS2
6 p.m.	Ecuador, Mushuc Runa at Universidad Catolica	**TV:** GOLTV
TENNIS		
5:45 a.m.	French Open, men's semifinals	**TV:** Tennis
11 a.m.	French Open, men's semifinals	**TV:** 4

GOLF

Conners co-leader in native Canada

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Corey Conners shot a bogey-free five-under 67 on Thursday to share the first-round lead at the RBC Canadian Open, the first PGA Tour event since its announcement of a merger with Saudi-funded rival LIV Golf.

Conners is seeking to become the tournament's first Canadian winner in 69 years. Also at 67 were Aaron Rai, Justin Lower and Chesson Hadley.

Two-time defending champion Rory McIlroy opened with a 71 at Oakdale in Toronto. Matt Fitzpatrick, who will seek to defend his U.S. Open title next week at Los Angeles Country Club, was one of nine players at 68.

At No. 29 in the world, Conners is the highest-ranked of 21 Canadians in the field.

Conners did not speak to reporters after his morning round because he was dealing with an urgent personal matter. His two PGA Tour victories both came at the Valero Texas Open, including this year.

"Really disciplined off the tee, we didn't try to do too much," said Danny Sahl, Conners' caddie. "But he had tons of fairways, missed maybe a couple in the first cut.

"Corey's just tee-to-green hitting greens in regulation, made some good putts, just strong all around."

Mike Weir, the last Canadian to lead after the first round, in 2008, shot 72 in his 30th Canadian Open appearance.

"He's experienced enough to know that it's so early, that it doesn't really mean much yet," Weir said of Conners.

Mackenzie Hughes, Taylor Pendrith and Roger Sloan were among the group at three under.

"You can't win it on Thursday, but you can lose it," Hughes said. "So definitely nice to be in a good spot after Thursday, but it's going to take four quite nice rounds and some steady golf."

Feagles shoots 59

Michael Feagles made a 25-foot birdie putt on his final hole to shoot a 12-under 59 in the first round of the BMW Charity Pro-Am on the Korn Ferry Tour.

It was the ninth sub-60 score in the history of the developmental tour and the second this year after Mac Meissner in April.

Feagles began his round on the back nine at Thornblade Club in Greer, S.C., turned in six-under 30 and closed with five consecutive birdies. He finished with 12 birdies and six pars.

"Never really had a chance to shoot 59. That was like my first, like, real chance. So I'm one for one," said the 25-year-old former Illinois player, who is a nephew of former NFL punter Jeff Feagles.

SCORES

$9-MILLION RBC CANADIAN OPEN
At Toronto—Par 72
Oakdale Golf & Country Club—7,264 yards
18-hole leaders

Corey Conners	34-33—67	-5
Chesson Hadley	34-33—67	-5
Justin Lower	36-31—67	-5
Aaron Rai	37-30—67	-5
Jonathan Byrd	36-32—68	-4
Matt Fitzpatrick	34-34—68	-4
Brice Garnett	37-31—68	-4
Ryan Gerard	33-35—68	-4
Will Gordon	36-32—68	-4
Mark Hubbard	35-33—68	-4
Seonghyeon Kim	35-33—68	-4
Brendon Todd	35-33—68	-4
Carl Yuan	34-34—68	-4
Ludvig Aberg	37-32—69	-3
Akshay Bhatia	36-33—69	-3
Eric Cole	35-34—69	-3
Lucas Glover	36-33—69	-3
Cody Gribble	35-34—69	-3
James Hahn	35-34—69	-3
Harry Hall	37-32—69	-3
Mackenzie Hughes	37-32—69	-3
Ryan Moore	35-34—69	-3
Andrew Novak	35-34—69	-3
Taylor Pendrith	35-34—69	-3
Justin Rose	37-32—69	-3
Roger Sloan	36-33—69	-3
Callum Tarren	36-33—69	-3
Richy Werenski	34-35—69	-3
Sam Bennett	35-35—70	-2
Ryan Brehm	39-31—70	-2
Tommy Fleetwood	36-34—70	-2
Russell Knox	38-32—70	-2
Nate Lashley	35-35—70	-2
Peter Malnati	35-35—70	-2
C.T. Pan	35-35—70	-2
Scott Piercy	36-34—70	-2
Tyson Alexander	37-34—71	-1
Ryan Armour	36-35—71	-1
Aaron Baddeley	35-36—71	-1
Kevin Chappell	36-35—71	-1
Trevor Cone	35-36—71	-1
Brian Gay	36-35—71	-1
Doug Ghim	37-34—71	-1
Brent Grant	37-34—71	-1
Bill Haas	35-36—71	-1
Adam Hadwin	39-32—71	-1
Garrick Higgo	37-34—71	-1
Harry Higgs	36-35—71	-1
Patton Kizzire	35-36—71	-1
Jake Knapp	36-35—71	-1
Kelly Kraft	36-35—71	-1
Matt Kuchar	37-34—71	-1
Martin Laird	36-35—71	-1
Rory McIlroy	37-34—71	-1
Adrian Meronk	36-35—71	-1
Seung-Yul Noh	37-34—71	-1
Henrik Norlander	37-34—71	-1
Vincent Norrman	36-35—71	-1
Sean O'Hair	37-34—71	-1
Matti Schmid	40-31—71	-1
Greyson Sigg	37-34—71	-1
Ben Silverman	35-36—71	-1
Austin Smotherman	35-36—71	-1
Chris Stroud	34-37—71	-1
Martin Trainer	36-35—71	-1
Dylan Wu	35-36—71	-1
Brandon Wu	36-35—71	-1
Cameron Young	38-33—71	-1

DP WORLD TOUR
$2-MILLION VOLVO CAR SCANDINAVIAN MIXED
At Stockholm—Par 72
Ullna Golf & Country Club—6,819 yards
18-hole leaders

Niklas Norgaard Moller, Denmark	33-32—65	-7
Yannik Paul, Germany	30-35—65	-7
Trichat Cheenglab, Thailand	34-32—66	-6
Louis De Jager, South Africa	33-33—66	-6
Frederic Lacroix, France	32-34—66	-6
Dale Whitnell, England	32-34—66	-6
Angel Hidalgo, Spain	32-35—67	-5
Soren Kjeldsen, Denmark	34-33—67	-5
Nicolai Von Dellingshausen, Germany	35-32—67	-5
Justin Walters, South Africa	32-35—67	-5
Elin Arvidsson, Sweden	35-33—68	-4
Olivia Cowan, Germany	34-34—68	-4
Gavin Green, Malaysia	36-32—68	-4
Nuria Iturrioz, Spain	34-34—68	-4
Alexander Knappe, Germany	38-30—68	-4
Tapio Pulkkanen, Finland	34-34—68	-4

SPORTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023 :: LATIMES.COM/SPORTS

STANLEY CUP FINAL :: GAME 3

FLORIDA 3, VEGAS 2 (OT)

GOLDEN KNIGHTS LEAD SERIES 2-1 | **GAME 4:** SATURDAY AT FLORIDA, 5 P.M. PDT

REBECCA BLACKWELL Associated Press

MATTHEW TKACHUK celebrates after Carter Verhaeghe scored on a wrist shot in overtime to lift the Panthers. Tkachuk tied the score with 2:13 left in regulation with a goal after Florida pulled its goalie.

Resilience and the rats lift Panthers to first win

Verhaeghe's goal in overtime makes it a series again

HELENE ELLIOTT

SUNRISE, Fla. — It rained plastic and plush rats inside FLA Live arena Thursday, a quirky nod to the Florida Panthers' past and a joyful celebration of their present position of being very much in the Stanley Cup Final after their 3-2 overtime victory over the Vegas Golden Knights.

The first Panthers team that went to the Final, in 1996, rallied around a symbolic rat after Scott Mellanby found a real rodent in the team's locker room at decrepit Miami Arena and scored two goals that night, which teammate John Vanbiesbrouck called a "rat trick," and it stuck. The Panthers were swept by the Colorado Avalanche in that Final, and after losing the first two games of this Final to Vegas, their return trip appeared to be following the same futile path.

But Matthew Tkachuk, who sat out most of the first period and part of the second period Thursday after being rocked by a hit from Keegan Kolesar, wrested control of the game away from the Golden Knights when he tied the score from close range with 2 minutes 13 seconds left in the third period and goaltender Sergei Bobrovsky on the bench in favor of an extra skater.

Carter Verhaeghe triggered a rainfall of rats when he wristed a shot past Vegas goaltender Adin Hill at 4:27 into sudden-death play, cutting Vegas' lead in the series to 2-1.

"They were leading most of the game but at the end of the day nobody cares how we got here," Tkachuk said.

Game 4 will be played Saturday at FLA Live Arena, presumably with more toy rats in the clutches of fans who appreciate the spunk of a team that barely made the playoffs as the No. 8 seed in the East and rallied from a 3-1 deficit to beat the Boston Bruins

[See **Elliott,** B8]

Stopping the skid starts with Kershaw

Dodgers ace throws seven shutout innings, Peralta adds four hits to end losing streak.

DODGERS 6
CINCINNATI 0

BY JACK HARRIS

CINCINNATI — Of the many missing ingredients that have afflicted the Dodgers' struggling pitching staff, one has started looming large among the rest.

The team's starters haven't pitched nearly deep enough into games.

And, as evidenced by their 22nd-ranked team earned-run average, it has led to a slew of cascading side effects.

"It's important," manager Dave Roberts said about starting pitching length. "With relievers as volatile as they are, to put them in stressful games every night, to have to use certain guys every night, it gets taxing."

That's what made the 6-0 defeat of the Cincinnati Reds on Thursday so refreshing for the Dodgers.

It wasn't just that the club stopped its losing streak at four games, or managed to avoid a series sweep at Great American Ball Park after being walked off the previous two nights.

Instead, in what has been an all-too-rare occurrence, they got seven strong innings from their starting pitcher, riding Clayton Kershaw's nine-strikeout gem to a much-needed, stress-relieving, staff-resetting win.

"That's why he is who he is," Roberts said of the three-time Cy Young Award winner. "That's why he has the respect of everyone in the league."

Indeed, Kershaw's outing was hardly out of his own personal norm. He has completed at least six innings in nine of 13 starts and gone seven innings in five of them.

Thursday also was the third one in which he didn't give up a run, capping the performance by collecting his 2,900th career strikeout.

In his 16 seasons, Kershaw has 82 starts of six shutout innings or more.

[See **Dodgers,** B7]

DYLAN BUELL Getty Images

FREDDIE FREEMAN scores for the Dodgers past Cincinnati catcher Curt Casali in the third inning.

Big Ten football will be arduous

USC and UCLA to face major challenges as they venture into their new conference.

BY BEN BOLCH

USC and UCLA won't be able to ease their way into the Big Ten.

The football schedules for their debut 2024 season, announced by the conference Thursday, include a heavy sprinkling of traditional powers.

USC will face Michigan, Penn State and Wisconsin at a time when it presumably no longer will have Heisman-winning quarterback Caleb Williams, likely gone to try his luck in the NFL.

UCLA gets Michigan *and* Ohio State during a season in which it also will play at Louisiana State, ending all jokes about the ease of the Bruins' recent schedules that included Football Championship Subdivision opponents.

Game dates and order of opponents were not announced. UCLA's first Big Ten schedule will include Ohio State, Northwestern, Nebraska, Minnesota and USC at the Rose Bowl in addition to road games against Michigan, Indiana, Iowa and Rutgers.

[See **Big Ten,** B6]

STEPH CHAMBERS Getty Images

THE SPARKS' AZURÁ STEVENS battles Seattle's Yvonne Turner, left, for the ball during the Storm's 66-63 win Tuesday at Climate Pledge Arena.

Sparks' Stevens ready to win over L.A. fans

BY THUC NHI NGUYEN

Before her long-awaited season debut, Azurá Stevens needed a moment to collect herself inside Seattle's Climate Pledge Arena. The Sparks forward's time finally had come.

"I've worked really hard to get here," Stevens said.

The Sparks' top free-agent signing will make her home debut Friday against her former team, the Chicago Sky, at 7 p.m. at Crypto.com Arena. The game will be televised nationally on Ion.

With Stevens back, the Sparks (3-3) are nearing full health as guard Jasmine Thomas was upgraded to available for Friday's game. The point guard suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in May 2022. Stevens, an athletic 6-foot-6 center who helped Chicago to the WNBA championship in 2021, missed the first five games because of a lingering back injury suffered while playing in Turkey.

The setback was a rare moment of rest for the energetic post player who has played overseas almost every offseason since getting drafted sixth overall in 2018 by the Dallas Wings. After previously playing in China and Russia, the 27-year-old helped Galatasaray to a third-place finish in Turkey's top pro league and a second-place finish in the EuroCup.

Stevens averaged 17.7 points and 7.3 rebounds during league play, but the season was condensed because of the devastating earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria in February. Between the twice-

[See **Sparks,** B8]

Adell gets dialed in right away for his latest call-up

Angels outfielder hits 451-foot homer in first at-bat as he tries to capitalize on chance.

ANGELS 3
CHICAGO CUBS 1

BY SARAH VALENZUELA

Jo Adell just wants to do the best he can with this opportunity.

"How many ever times I get put out there, whether it's a pinch-hit, whether it's a start, whatever it is, I'm gonna try to help the team win," Adell said before the Angels' 3-1 win over the Chicago Cubs on Thursday at Angel Stadium.

The Angels outfielder was sent to triple A to start the season. He was called back to the major leagues on Wednesday, a late scratch from a start with the Salt Lake Bees, after Hunter Renfroe went on the paternity list because of the birth of his first child. Adell started Thursday's game in right field and batted sixth.

Adell, however, might not be with the big league team for long, with Renfroe expected back Saturday — MLB's paternity leave is three days. Manager Phil Nevin acknowledged a decision would need to be made, but still was excited to watch Adell play Thursday. Adell recalled that conversation with Nevin.

"I'm not trying to force a hand or try to make something that's not going to be," Adell said. "Every chance that I get, I'm gonna try to make it the best I can."

Adell mashed the second pitch of his first at-bat 117.2 miles per hour off the bat, 451 feet into the stands beyond the left field corner. The solo shot tied the game 1-1 in the second inning. It was the hardest-hit ball by an Angels player this season.

Adell and Mickey Moniak were at the end of the outfielder pecking order when the Angels left Tempe, Ariz., for the spring.

General manager Perry Minasian made sure to fortify depth among the position players in the offseason to help keep a healthy cast of bona-fide major league play-

[See **Angels,** B6]

Save the horses, save the sport
Horse racing has placed higher importance on preventing deaths, in part to help ensure its own survival. **A1**

Belmont Stakes is in jeopardy
Poor air quality in New York because of fires in Canada threatens the running of Saturday's Triple Crown race. **B9**

Los Angeles Times

E

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023 :: LATIMES.COM/CALENDAR

VICTOR LLORENTE For The Times

"THE SUMMER I Turned Pretty" heartthrob Christopher Briney makes his movie debut in Mary Harron's "Dalíland."

Eye on the ball

After breaking out in a YA hit, Christopher Briney steps up to artful film debut

BY JEN YAMATO

A year before he skyrocketed to heartbreaker status and social media fame overnight as the emotionally guarded Conrad Fisher on Amazon's hit YA series "The Summer I Turned Pretty," Christopher Briney saw his future change twice in a matter of months.

"I don't know what I did in a past life to deserve work at all," Briney, 25, says self-deprecatingly over video chat from his Brooklyn, N.Y., apartment, remembering a time not long ago when he'd auditioned for 70 roles trying to land his first job. The Connecticut native once thought he might become a pro baseball player before the acting bug bit and he fell in love with film. "I think the love of doing it, or the prospect of doing it, kept me going because I don't know what else I would do," he says.

The first door opened in the spring of 2021 when director Mary Harron ("American Psycho") lost a key actor to another project a week into production on the indie [See **Briney,** E3]

MOVIE REVIEW

A cold case of rage, sorrow

The César-winning 'Night of the 12th' spins a gripping tale of murder and misogyny.

JUSTIN CHANG
FILM CRITIC

The gripping, sobering French procedural "The Night of the 12th" begins with an admission of defeat: The ripped-from-the-headlines homicide case we're about to observe, it tells us, will remain unsolved. And you desperately want it to be solved, given the particular monstrousness of the crime.

In a scenic valley near Grenoble, a 21-year-old woman named Clara (Lula Cotton Frapier) is walking home late one night when a faceless assailant emerges from the shadows, douses her with gasoline and sets her ablaze. It's a horrifying assault, deeply personal in its brutality — the killer whispers her name beforehand — and it haunts you, much as it haunts the investigators who spend weeks, months and ultimately years trying to earn Clara a measure of justice.

Director Dominik Moll ("With a Friend Like Harry ...," "Only the Animals"), who wrote the script with regular collaborator Gilles Marchand, introduces us to those investigators at the outset. Mere hours before the attack, a group of police detectives is celebrating a colleague's retirement and [See **'12th,'** E3]

Film Movement

BASTIEN Bouillon, left, Bouli Lanners in "12th."

Bringing her eclectic taste to Ojai

Rhiannon Giddens wants to give people the 'powerful' feeling of uncertainty as music director of the Ojai Music fest.

BY TIM GREIVING

Rhiannon Giddens is maxed out. She recently spent a weekend in Knoxville, Tenn., performing a series of concerts with Yo-Yo Ma and Chris Thile. She has a new album, her first collection of all-original songs, coming out in August. She's music director of the Ojai Music Festival this weekend. And she just won a Pulitzer.

Giddens remembers meeting the late banjo player Mick Moloney several years ago, and his very first words to her were not "Hello" or "How are you?," but — she says, imitating his Irish brogue — "Have you learned to say *no* yet?"

EBRU YILDIZ

GIDDENS received the Pulitzer Prize for her opera "Omar."

The Grammy-winning singer, songwriter, banjo player, children's author, actor, opera composer is, indeed, saying no to more and more potential opportunities these days, and she appreciates how good of a problem that is. But she also knows how being a journeyman musician in today's world makes saying no almost impossible.

"The way that we've set up freelance artists is ridiculous," Giddens says, "because to get anywhere, you have to say yes to everything. It's part of your psyche, and so you get to the point where you don't have to say yes to everything, but you don't know how to stop."

Giddens is tireless in her work. A founding member of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, [See **Giddens,** E2]

TELEVISION REVIEW

Criminally clever sendup of true crime

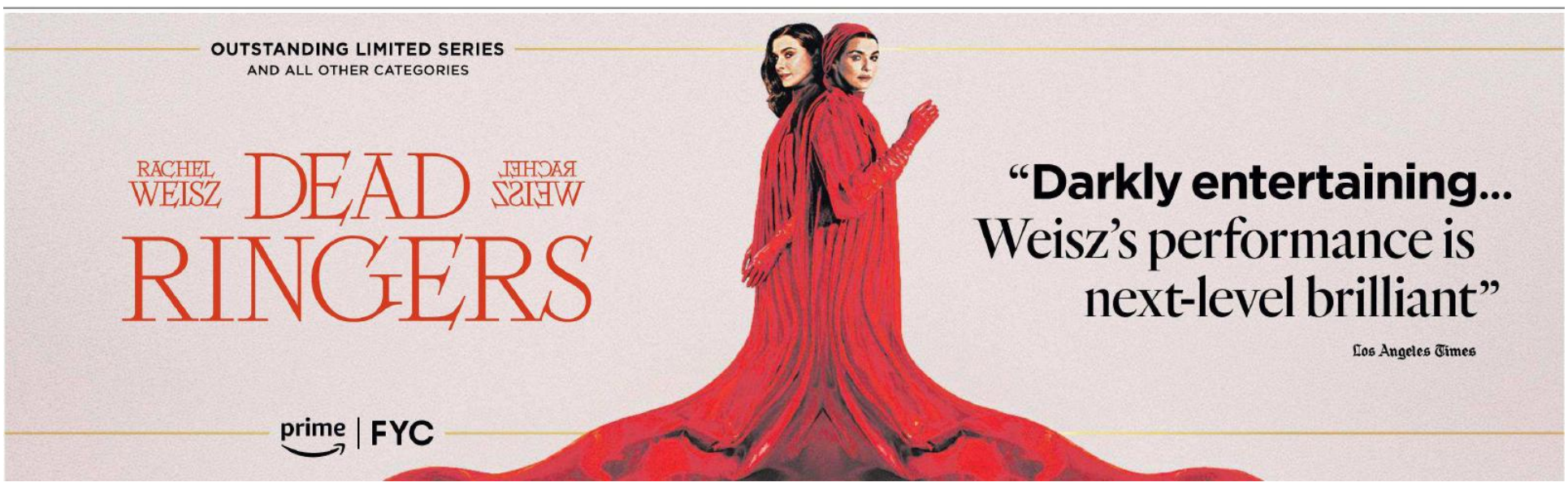
'Based on a True Story' is a hilarious indictment of people's fixation with murder.

LORRAINE ALI
TELEVISION CRITIC

It's podcasting or prison for an active serial killer in "Based on a True Story," which is set against America's obsession with true crime. Peacock's brisk, bingeable comedy is now available to stream.

The Westside Ripper is terrorizing Los Angeles when Ava and Nathan Bartlett (Kaley Cuoco and Chris Messina), a Mar Vista couple who are struggling to make ends meet, discover the killer's identity. Sensing a lucrative opportunity, they negotiate with the Ripper: If he'll do a podcast with them, they won't turn him in to the police. There's just one caveat — he has to stop killing. But will he?

Morals and ethics are collateral damage in this fast-paced, sardonic and highly [See **'True Story,'** E2]



Peacock

KALEY CUOCO and Chris Messina play a money-strapped married couple who uncover an L.A. serial killer in "Based on a True Story."

Podcasting partners in crime

[**'True Story,'** from E1]
entertaining thriller that pokes fun at true-crime culture, the pursuit of fame and the shallow excess of L.A. The eight-episode series was created and written by Craig Rosenberg, one of the masterminds behind Prime Video's fantastically warped comedy "The Boys," a series that satirizes the superhero craze.

"Based on a True Story" follows a similar idea but puts the murder-as-entertainment industry at the story's center. The actions of each character illustrate the sheer absurdity of a business model built atop "the dead bodies of white women."

While not as graphic or crass as "The Boys," this series stands on its own as a hilarious indictment of the public's preoccupation with morbid crime and the media's fire hose of content in service of that addiction.

Ava, Nathan, their opportunistic cohorts — the hot plumber Matt Pierce (Tom Bateman) and their vapid frenemy Ruby Gale (Priscilla Quintana) — study the success of big moneymakers such as the "Sisters in Crime" podcast. Ava's Post-it notes on the key elements of a blockbuster production include "creepy bumper music," "merch" and the conscience-clearing conceit that "we're really here for the victims."

Cuoco and Messina effortlessly sell the idea that they're a desperate couple in need of a plan. They have an old house full of leaky pipes and a baby on the way. L.A. is a brutal place, and not just because there's a serial killer lurking in their backyard. They're contending with the astronomical cost of living, vapid colleagues and ageism. Nathan is a former tennis star and a coach at a pricy Beverly Hills health club, but he's been demoted and replaced by a 20-something instructor with a "tight butt." And Ava isn't making the grade as a Realtor. The killer who walks into their lives may be terrifying, but he's also a godsend.

He's proud of his notoriety as the Westside Ripper but frustrated that he can't openly take credit for the bloody spree. An anonymous podcast, with proceeds from the production funneled through overseas shell companies, is a chance for him to boast about his slayings with anonymity. However, his ego threatens to expose them all.

The conflicts and conundrums that all the parties face make for plenty of hilarious and iffy situations, making the series' subjects and viewers sit in the uncomfortable reality that "today's great American art form is murder."

Sharp writing and keen comedic timing by the show's main players make "Based on a True Story" an amusingly disturbing journey into the world of true-crime fandom and the queasy worship around homicidal maniacs like Dennis Rader, better known as "BTK," and John Wayne Gacy. It's on full display when Ava, Nathan and the gang attend CrimeCon in Las Vegas, where vendors are hawking Ted Bundy bottle openers and breathlessly comparing notes on their theories around the identity of the "Zodiac Killer." He was, of course, brilliant because he was never caught.

Like "Only Murders in the Building," this series is a clever sendup of ID channel programming, podcast culture and true-crime hosts. As in "The Flight Attendant," the twisting and turning plot offers plenty of cliffhangers and surprises. But "Based on a True Story" also forces us to confront the fact that murder is still murder, no matter how lucrative or entertaining.

'Based on a True Story'

Where: Peacock
When: Anytime
Rated: TV-MA (may be unsuitable for children under the age of 17)

Instrumental in the Ojai lineup

[**Giddens,** from E1]
for more than a decade she's been illuminating the unsung Black history of the banjo and bluegrass music — most recently as host of a 10-part educational series, "Banjo," for the streaming service Wondrium.

In 2020, she inherited Yo-Yo Ma's mantle as artistic director of Silkroad, a music project that smashes cultural and genre boundaries. Her upcoming album, "You're the One," is a manifestation of her belief that "borders and genres are ridiculous, because you've got a Patti Page kind of thing next to a doo-wop '60s thing."

Her opera "Omar" — which she composed with Michael Abels — is now a Pulitzer-winning work. Although she is a classically trained opera singer, Giddens has no formal composition training and she wrote "Omar" with her banjo and voice, which Abels then arranged and enriched for orchestra. It's the first time a music Pulitzer has gone to a collaborative pair.

For Giddens, the prize declared to the world that "this could be the future of opera. It doesn't have to be a little man in a garret, composing based on compositional techniques that have been taught in the academy. This *too* can be opera."

Giddens was at a house party in Ojai two years ago, where she was a visiting artist at the Ojai Music Festival, and "I was just talking about my love for blasting down genre walls and the early music I've been experimenting with my partner Francesco, and world music, and classical, and 'What does classical mean?' " Ara Guzelimian, the festival's artistic and executive director, was there and the next day he sent Giddens a text: "What do you think about coming back here in a couple years and actually putting this to the test?"

Working with her partner, Francesco Turrisi, an Italian multi-instrumentalist, Giddens began assembling an international dream team for this year's festival that included members of Silkroad such as Wu Man, the Chinese pipa virtuoso, and Kayhan Kalhor, a kamancheh player from Iran.

Wu saw Giddens perform at the Big Ears Festival in Knoxville a few years ago, and "it touched me very, very deeply," she says. "It's just amazing, like, where does the energy come from? ... It's giant. And also the presence on the stage — very few artists are like that, to me."

Al Seib Los Angeles Times

THE ATTACCA QUARTET is on this year's Ojai Music Festival lineup arranged by Rhiannon Giddens.

The opening-night program will feature the aptly titled "Liquid Borders" composed by Gabriela Ortiz, performed by the percussion quartet Red Fish Blue Fish. The rest of the weekend, between morning meditations and moon viewings — and all of the "liminal spaces" where Giddens says so much magic can happen — will include an eclectic brew of chamber works, solo improvisations, pipa tunes from the 7th century and ancient Persian music, and newer works by Chinese composers and several pieces by Iranian women, such as Aida Shirazi and Nina Barzegar.

A centerpiece is Tan Dun's "Ghost Opera," which Wu made famous with the Kronos Quartet in the 1990s and will perform here with the Attacca Quartet — accompanied by a dance choreographed by PeiJu Chien-Pott, a Martha Graham alumna from Taiwan.

Another highlight is a new 70-minute, chamber-sized concert adaptation of Giddens and Abels' opera. In "Omar's Journey," Giddens herself will sing the important role of Julie.

The opera has now been staged in South Carolina, L.A. and Boston, with future productions scheduled in San Francisco and Chicago — but so far there has been no recording. When it won the Pulitzer, Giddens' first thought was: "Maybe we can get the recording made now!"

The festival will culminate in an improvised concert where string players — including Giddens, Wu and Kalhor — will bring their respective instruments and just jam. Wu is excited: "Finally we get the chance to 'Let's party together!' " she says. Kayhor sounds a tad more nervous. "That's not usually what I do," he says, laughing. "But I think this is one of the specialties of Ojai, and I welcome it."

In her mission to erase old concepts and divisions, Giddens expects to make people just a little uncomfortable.

"There is an element of uncertainty about a program like this," she says, "which is the point. There will be years where everything has been written out, and every concert has all pieces programmed, and they've been practiced and everything. This is not that year. ... I think everybody will have moments of, like, 'I'm not sure what's going to happen right now.' But I think that's powerful."

Giddens is perpetually jet-lagged. She used to drag her kids around the world with her — "I was like 250 days a year with an infant," she says, "I mean, *hardcore*" — but not so much now that they're both in school. Though her daughter, who just started playing the cello, will join Giddens in Ojai as a gofer.

The 46-year-old says she would have quit the music industry years ago if it weren't for what her ancestors went through, and she didn't have that "flame to take care of." But she's also inspired by other tireless musicians including Ma and Dolly Parton, who parlay their fame into "trying to make the world a better place for as many people as they can."

While flying around — and her flight ever higher in acclaim — Giddens is starting to ask herself bigger questions: "What is music for? How have we caged it and commodified it?"

"And it's not to say that you can't do both," says Giddens, "but we've leached the everyday art out of our lives, and then packaged it up. What does that mean that you have writers and musicians, who are ostensibly doing the thing that humans have been needing for, like, millennia for their mental health, but they're making kajillions of dollars? Whereas the vast group of people — journeymen — who are doing this as well are making peanuts? And then you have the majority of people in general who aren't doing any of it. That seems like a balance that's not right to me."

So her mission continues.

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ROYAL 11523 Santa Monica Blvd. West L.A.
PERSIAN LESSONS NR 1:00 4:00 7:00
PADRE PIO R 1:20 7:20
RISE 4:10 PM
THE NIGHT OF THE 12TH 1:10 4:20 7:10

MONICA 1332 Second Street Santa Monica
AMERICONNED 1:20 7:10
MENDING THE LINE R 1:00 4:10
LYNCH/OZ 1:10 4:10 7:00
YOU HURT MY FEELINGS R 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30
MASTER GARDENER R 4:20 PM
BLACKBERRY R 4:00 7:00
IT AIN'T OVER PG 1:20 7:20
CHILE '76 (1976) 1:30 7:30
WHITE BUILDING 4:30 PM

TOWN CENTER 17200 Ventura Blvd. Encino
MENDING THE LINE R 4:10 PM
PADRE PIO R 7:20 PM
ABOUT MY FATHER PG-13 12:55 3:10 5:20 7:30
THE LITTLE MERMAID PG 1:10 4:00 7:00
YOU HURT MY FEELINGS R 12:55 3:10 5:20 7:30
THE NIGHT OF THE 12TH 1:10 7:10
BOOK CLUB: THE NEXT CHAPTER PG-13 4:20 PM
IT AIN'T OVER PG 1:20 PM

NEWHALL 22500 Lyons Ave. Santa Clarita
TRANSFORMERS: RISE OF THE BEASTS PG-13 1:10 4:10 7:10 10:10
THE BOOGEYMAN PG-13 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:15
SPIDER-MAN: ACROSS THE SPIDER-VERSE PG 1:20 4:00 7:00 10:00
ABOUT MY FATHER PG-13 1:30 4:30 7:20 10:15
THE LITTLE MERMAID PG 1:10 4:10 7:10 10:10
YOU HURT MY FEELINGS R 4:20 PM
FAST X PG-13 1:20 4:00 7:00 10:00
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 3 PG-13 1:00 6:45 9:50

GLENDALE 207 N. Maryland Ave Glendale
THE ANGRY BLACK GIRL AND HER MONSTER 4:30 10:10
SPIDER-MAN: ACROSS THE SPIDER-VERSE PG 1:10 4:00 7:00 10:00
THE LITTLE MERMAID PG 1:00 4:10 7:10 9:55
YOU HURT MY FEELINGS R 1:30 7:20
THE NIGHT OF THE 12TH 1:10 7:20
SANCTUARY R 4:20 10:10
CHILE '76 (1976) 1:20 7:30
THE SECRET KINGDOM PG 4:10 10:15

NoHo 7 5240 Lankershim Blvd. No. Hollywood
TRANSFORMERS: RISE OF THE BEASTS PG-13 1:10 4:10 7:10
THE BOOGEYMAN PG-13 1:30 4:30 7:30
LYNCH/OZ 1:15 7:10
RISE 1:20 7:20
SPIDER-MAN: ACROSS THE SPIDER-VERSE PG 12:50 3:55 7:00
THE LITTLE MERMAID PG 1:00 4:00 7:00
YOU HURT MY FEELINGS R 3:05 5:20 7:30
SANCTUARY R 4:20 PM

CLAREMONT 450 W. 2nd Street Claremont
TRANSFORMERS: RISE OF THE BEASTS PG-13 1:00 4:10 7:20 10:15
THE BOOGEYMAN PG-13 1:20 4:20 7:20 10:15
SPIDER-MAN: ACROSS THE SPIDER-VERSE PG 1:10 4:10 7:00 10:10
THE LITTLE MERMAID PG 1:10 4:00 7:10 10:00
YOU HURT MY FEELINGS R 1:30 7:30
SANCTUARY R 4:30 10:10

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A gripping tale of murder and misogyny

['12th,' from E1]
welcoming his much younger replacement, Yohan (Bastien Bouillon).

The scene plays at first like routine exposition; Yohan, the new head of the homicide unit, will be our eyes and ears on the investigation into Clara's killing.

But from the way Moll cuts through the crowd, I think he also means for us to scan the faces of Yohan's colleagues, to register their boisterous, clubby energy and to notice, crucially but hardly surprisingly, that nearly all of them are men.

The same is true of the various creeps Yohan and his team will interrogate over the course of their long, frustrating investigation into Clara's death. Nearly all of them were (or claim to have been) romantically involved at one point or another with the deceased, an attractive young woman with a seemingly unquenchable passion for life and love.

That's putting it more politely than some of the men do, whether it's the former co-worker (Baptiste Perais) who describes Clara as a clingy side-piece or the smug domestic abuser (Pierre Lottin) who claims she liked it rough.

Clara, of course, is unable to defend herself against these characterizations, not all of which come from her potential assailants. "She went for freaks," one cop says, an instance of slut-shaming and victim-blaming that inspires a sharp rebuke from Yohan.

Played with keen intelligence and compelling restraint by Bouillon, Yohan represents a younger, more enlightened breed of cop: quick to empathize, slow to judge, reluctant to use force unless necessary.

His older, more cynical partner, Marceau (Bouli Lanners, excellent), has fewer inhibitions and more paternalistic instincts: Disgusted by the various men he's interrogating and troubled by personal problems at home, he lashes out with a nothing-to-lose abandon that's neither defensible nor dismissible.

Film Movement

NANIE (Pauline Serieys) meets with investigator Yohan (Bastien Bouillon) in "Night of the 12th," a film inspired by a real-life cold case.

"The Night of the 12th" ("La nuit du 12"), which swept France's César Awards this year (it won six, including best picture and director), is thus both an engrossing detective story and something of an expansive sociological X-ray.

Its persuasive, low-key realism has its roots in Pauline Guéna's 2020 book, "18.3 — une Année à la PJ," about a year she spent embedded with criminal investigators in Versailles. But that realism also arises from Moll's patience as a filmmaker, his desire to capture some of the drudgery and disillusionment of everyday police work and to show the emotional and psychological toll it takes on its most dedicated practitioners.

Working with cinematographer Patrick Ghiringhelli and editor Laurent Rouan, Moll tells the story with atmospheric sweep (the mountainside scenery provides a beautiful, desolate chill) and an unhurried flow.

He has a way of infusing even standard procedural tropes — the scouring of the crime scene, the breaking of the news to devastated parents and friends, the endless stakeouts, dead-ends and false leads — with an unexpected gravity and emotional power.

Even the seasoned crime-fiction aficionado will be reminded here of not just the trauma of murder but also its invasive, disruptive power, the way it brings even tangential secrets into the open and turns the police into professional airers of dirty laundry.

What emerges from this particular case is an expansive study in collective misogyny — the kind of free-floating contempt for women that holds sway over Clara's small hometown as well as this institution of ostensible law and order.

The story's timing is instructive: Most of it takes place in 2016, shortly before the rise of a #MeToo movement that, in Europe especially, will encounter both resistance and support. But by the time the story concludes three years later, some changes have clearly come to pass: Notably, it's a female judge (Anouk Grinberg) who urges Yohan to reopen the case in 2019, something he undertakes with crucial assistance from a new colleague, Nadia (Mouna Soualem), one of the few female detectives in the homicide unit.

"Men kill, and the police are men," Nadia says. "Odd, isn't it?" It isn't the only time that "The Night of the 12th" spells out its themes and implications with blunt force, something it also does with its recurring shots of Yohan doing laps on his bicycle around a velodrome.

If these moments veer toward the obvious, the movie admirably resists a conventional resolution. The film's refusal to tie up loose ends has already inspired comparisons to Bong Joon Ho's "Memories of Murder" and David Fincher's "Zodiac," two of modern cinema's great cold-case classics. Moll's movie doesn't leave behind the same deep, implacable chill of those earlier works, but its lingering rage and sorrow are no less easy to wave aside.

'The Night of the 12th'

Not rated
In French with English subtitles
Running time: 1 hour, 54 minutes
Playing: Laemmle Glendale; Laemmle Royal, West Los Angeles; Laemmle Town Center 5, Encino

Artful film debut

[Briney, from E1]
drama "Dalíland," about Salvador Dalí's twilight years in 1970s New York City. Suddenly in search of a young star who had smarts, maturity and could hold their own against Ben Kingsley's Dalí, she combed acting-grad showreels and discovered the then-unknown Briney, casting him over Zoom in his film debut as James, an art-world neophyte. (The Magnolia Pictures release is in theaters and on demand now.)

"He had to look a certain way because the first thing that Salvador Dalí says to him is, 'You look like an angel ... you look like a Renaissance painting,' " Harron told The Times. "He had to be someone who had a certain youthful innocence but also wasn't a pushover. Someone who had certain strength inside, which Chris has as a person."

The fictional James' entrance into Dalí's flashy orbit was reminiscent of Harron's own arrival in New York City's punk scene in the '70s — an Alice tumbling into an intoxicating Wonderland where "if you met the right people, you would suddenly get invited in," Harron says. "And with Chris, you had someone who you would want to invite in."

Obsessive fans of "The Summer I Turned Pretty," which premiered to critical acclaim and TikTok fervor last June, would agree. They've already memed and memorized Briney's every move, line and mannerism as the brooding Conrad, one of two brothers entangled in a love triangle with the show's teenage heroine, Isabel "Belly" Conklin (Lola Tung), in the romantic drama series adapted by Jenny Han from her own novels. A highly anticipated second season airs starting July 14 on Prime Video.

Finding stars who shared an electric spark was vital to bringing the popular books to life, and creator-showrunner Han was casting under unusually challenging circumstances during the pandemic. It was shortly after Briney landed in Liverpool, England, for "Dalíland" that he got his second break of a lifetime, squeezing a virtual chemistry read with Tung into one of his first days on set.

Magnolia Pictures

BEN KINGSLEY as Dalí, left, Christopher Briney as James in "Dalíland."

Erika Doss Prime Video

YOUNG LOVE gets messy with Conrad (Briney) and Belly (Lola Tung) in "The Summer I Turned Pretty."

By the time the film wrapped, he'd won the role that would shoot him to Gen Z stardom.

"There's a lot in Chris' performance as Conrad that is swimming beneath the surface — there's so much he wants to say but can't," Han told The Times via email of Briney's quietly simmering work in the role. "He doesn't have a ton of dialogue so it has to be conveyed in his eyes, and Chris was able to do that over a Zoom audition, no easy feat. And, at its heart, 'The Summer I Turned Pretty' is a love story, so finding leads with chemistry was one of my biggest priorities. Chris and Lola have an undeniable chemistry on screen. When I saw Chris with Lola, I knew he was the right Conrad."

Being catapulted into the public eye at such a meteoric speed — and garnering 1.8 million followers on Instagram, where Briney promotes his work alongside more intimate glimpses of his life and inner circle — is an ongoing adjustment. "Being a face on someone's screen is something that I'm still getting used to," the actor says.

Maybe that's why he finds kinship in his first major roles. Both James, an aspiring curator eager to be among artists in "Dalíland," and Conrad, a teenager struggling with his own buried anxieties on "Summer," are watchful by nature, like him.

"Being an observer is something that I really enjoy as a human — being an observer, a consumer of art," he says. "To be the filter through which people get to see Sir Ben and Dalí and his world and Mary's movie was the most exciting thing for me, to attempt to be the way into the story."

He still vividly recalls the moment he met Kingsley on set, where his nerves helped him tap into the character.

"He came up to me and was like, 'They're really throwing you into the deep end on this one,' " says Briney. "He put his fist to my chest and said, 'Good luck,' and then he walked away. And for most of the rest of it, I knew him in character as Dalí. The next time I saw him was our first table read. We had a little screen test and they had us in costume and makeup. He started saying lines from a scene that I hadn't really worked on yet, just exercising the character. And in the moment I was like, 'Oh, man — am I going to not know my lines?' "

It was a steep learning curve, he says. "I remember all the really rough days where I was dealing with anxiety and insecurity," he says of his first two days filming a long Steadicam shot on a beach in Wales standing in for Spain. "I felt like I was learning how to ride a bike with no wheels. My memory of it is feeling like I was going to either die or get fired before I f— finish this movie."

A day later, things just clicked. "I had this scene in a car — simply pretending to drive a car — and everything just felt possible again. I was like, 'I can do this.' "

Serving as "Dalíland's" audience surrogate was a major task, and one Harron admits was a risky bet to place on a new actor. But in Briney's steady gaze, Harron found oceans of depth and a rare luminosity. "A lot of it is him watching, taking us into these different worlds. You want someone with really good eyes, that are expressive and almost reflective. I said to [Dalíland" writer and Harron's husband] John [C. Walsh], 'It's like he has a ring light in his eyes,' they light up. And eyes are everything in screen acting."

The son of actors who met in New York in the '80s before moving to Connecticut to raise their kids, Briney traces his creative life to seeing theater and film at a young age. He was also keenly aware of his parents' acting endeavors and the odds against finding success in the industry. "I always knew that they had tried to act, and that they loved it but I wanted to do something different. — I wanted to be a little bit of a rebel," he says with a smile. "I'm not, really."

Trading pitching dreams for acting courses (the best baseball movies ever made? "Bull Durham," "The Natural," "A League of Their Own," he rattles off), Briney found friends and collaborators at Pace University, writing and directing his own short films along the way. And as much as his star exploded in the last year thanks to "Summer," earning him the kind of stature Harron predicts could help secure financing for the kinds of indie films he hopes to make, Briney remains grounded by certain passions.

For one: His enduring love for art cinema. "I have my own set of Criterion DVDs and I enjoy capital 'M' movies in an annoying way," he laughs. "I'll still go see my favorite movies at Metrograph even if I've seen them a few times, because there's nothing like seeing them in the theaters." Yes, he has a sparsely updated Letterboxd account, although "if somebody found it," he says, "they wouldn't be very interested."

Among his favorite films: Leos Carax's "Mauvais Sang," Paul Schrader's "First Reformed," Richard Linklater's "Before" trilogy and Celine Sciamma's "Portrait of a Lady on Fire," which reminds him of the time he crossed paths with Sciamma at NYC's Angelika Film Center but didn't introduce himself. "Now I'm like, 'I'm a fool! I'm a total fool for not going up to her,' " he says, his inner fanboy showing.

Mulling the Schrader-influenced short film "Paix" he directed in film school — which enterprising fans can still hunt down online — he considers his future goals of stepping behind the camera. At the same time, he's in no rush. "I don't trust myself quite as a writer. Not that I won't at some point in my life, but I think I see images better than I see words," he says.

For the immediate future, he's trying new things. On the film front, he recently wrapped Paramount's Tina Fey-produced "Mean Girls" musical adaptation, exercising untested comedy chops. "I don't think I'm much of a tell-jokes kind of a guy," he says. "It was a new muscle to explore, but I had a great time doing it."

When "Summer" returns for its second season next month with a storyline that expands on the second book in Han's bestselling trilogy, audiences will see Briney unlock new dimensions in his Conrad character. "He's walking through life with a new lens and being affected by factors that didn't exist in the first season," he teases.

To Han, it's the emotions Briney can convey with just a glance that bring the beloved character so fully to life. "As an actor, Chris conveys so much longing and intensity in just a look or a gesture," she writes. "I'm continually impressed by how he captures Conrad's seriousness and is so judicious about lighthearted moments from Conrad, because when he grants the audience a rare smile, it's like the sun peeking through the clouds."

With his first feature finally out in the world, Briney is feeling grateful for the opportunities that have opened up in the last two life-changing years. "When we were making this show I was like, 'I just hope one person watches and is really affected by it,' " he says. "That's really all that matters to me. I hope it reaches someone."

'Dalíland'

Not rated
Running time: 1 hour, 37 minutes
Playing: Landmark Nuart; also available on demand and digital

'The Summer I Turned Pretty"

Where: Prime Video
When: Anytime; season 2 premieres July 14
Rated: TV-14

COMICS

SUDOKU

2					3			9
	4		7				3	5
				8		6		1
8			3				6	
		2				5		
	6				8			7
1		7		6				
6	5				1		8	
3			9					

Level: Diabolical

4	1				6
		5			
2					
					1
				3	
6				2	

Level: Moderate

6/9/23

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Solutions to Thursday's puzzles

2	7	8	3	9	4	5	6	1
3	9	6	1	5	7	4	2	8
4	1	5	8	6	2	3	7	9
8	5	1	2	3	9	6	4	7
9	6	3	4	7	1	8	5	2
7	2	4	5	8	6	1	9	3
6	3	7	9	4	8	2	1	5
5	4	2	7	1	3	9	8	6
1	8	9	6	2	5	7	3	4

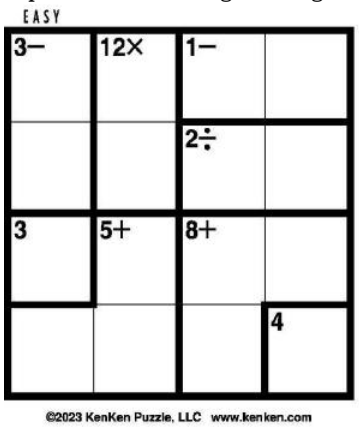
6	2	3	5	1	4
1	4	5	2	6	3
3	1	6	4	5	2
4	5	2	6	3	1
2	6	1	3	4	5
5	3	4	1	2	6

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 or 2-by-3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 (or 1 to 6 for the smaller grid). For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit *www.sudoku.org.uk*.

KENKEN

Every box will contain a number; numbers depend on the size of the grid. For a 6x6 puzzle, use Nos. 1-6. Do not repeat a number in any row or column. The numbers in each heavily outlined set of squares must combine to produce the target number found in the top left corner of the cage using the mathematical operation indicated. A number can be repeated within a cage as long as it is not in the same row or column.

EASY



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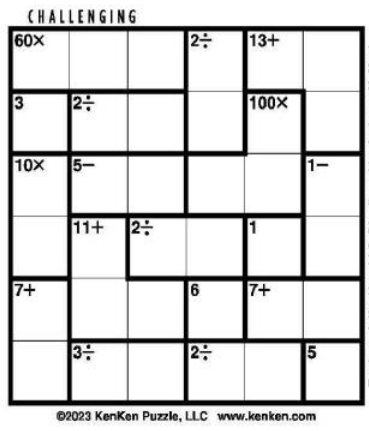
CHALLENGING



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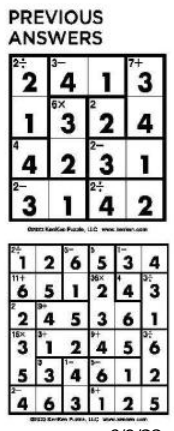
PREVIOUS ANSWERS



6/9/23

HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis

Aries (March 21-April 19): You really do believe in extending unconditional love to some people. Who and why?

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Today, you'll move and shake, putting yourself in the thick of the action where you can feel which direction everything is going.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): You're curious, willing to dip a toe into the unknown, and more than capable of handling whatever comes of that.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): A very effective process can seem like a mess to the outsider. But to the insider who understands what's getting made, the same process is fascinating and beautiful.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Let the others fight over who owns a thing and who gets credit, money and status from it. You're more interested in the general usefulness of the thing.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You've known the lingering shadow of loneliness and recognize when it's settled on someone else. You'll help.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Life gets simple when you skip the mundane struggles, opting only for the timeless ones.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): It's possible something is demanding attention you can't afford to give at this time. A few tweaks can make things work much better.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Even as a powerful commander of your own vessel, you can still be surprised at the strong impulses, preferences and behaviors that can overtake you.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Healing takes time and has many stages. Adjust your expectations to allow for ups and downs, blips and bumps in the road.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): When what's going on has no relevance to you, don't wait to act. Change the channel, set something down or walk away.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): It's not necessary to ask anyone if you're on the right path today because the multitudes within you will sing and let you know.

Today's birthday (June 9): Notable figures mentor and inspire you as you navigate the challenges and opportunities that come your way. You are also someone who values personal growth and development; you may find that your work takes on a deeper meaning as you see it as a way to contribute to your own spiritual practice and self-improvement. Aquarius and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers: 6, 13, 2, 22 and 19.

Mathis writes her column for Creators Syndicate Inc. The horoscope should be read for entertainment.

CROSSWORD

Edited By Patti Varol and Joyce Nichols Lewis
By Natasha Erickson

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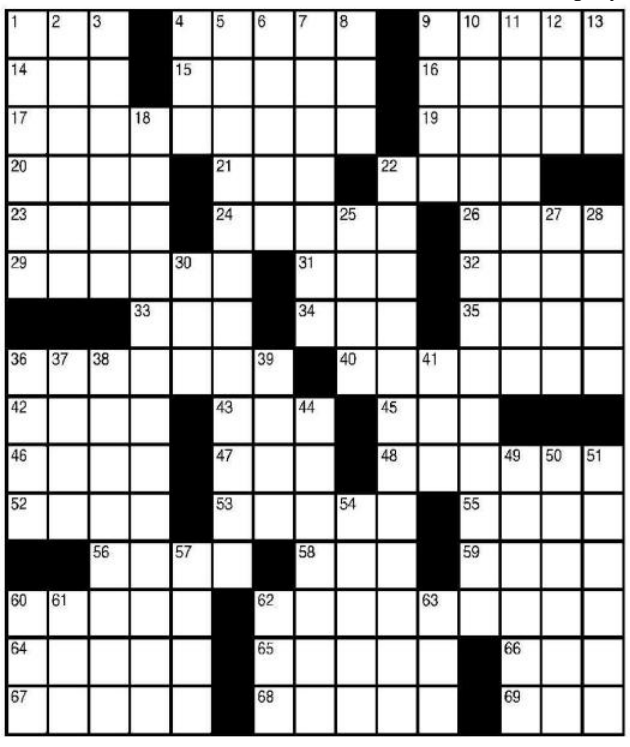


ACROSS
1 CIO partner
4 Mosey
9 Literary musketeer
14 Natori Feathers undergarment
15 "Ta-da!"
16 __ Island
17 Life, for one
19 Concur
20 Fashion magazine that's also a French pronoun
21 Reuben bread
22 Softball stat
23 Thailand, once
24 "Same here"
26 Toy company based in Billund, Denmark
29 Garlicky dish
31 Ocho menos seis
32 Jazz style
33 Solar wind particle
34 Christmas __
35 Hideout
36 Serranos, e.g.
40 More than willing
42 __ Kong
43 Courses for coll. credit
45 Formerly, in bios
46 Petrol brand
47 Issa of "Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse"
48 Olympian's violation
52 Utah's Capitol __ National Park
53 Water bill basis
55 Sci. that studies biodiversity
56 __ egg: vegan baking ingredient
58 Radar __
59 Silver State city
60 Blacksmith's wear
62 Bit of Valentine's decor
64 Snuck
65 Whereas, briefly
66 Canberra sch.
67 Place to have reservations
68 Camera option
69 Rep. group

DOWN
1 Convent leader
2 Cavort
3 Playmate of Tinky Winky, Dipsy, and Po
4 Verb on a dipstick
5 *Possible symptom before a bad headache
6 Annual milestones, briefly
7 Tart citrus drink
8 Summer in Monaco
9 Many a Yemeni
10 *Quick-to-wake sorts
11 Early rail transportation
12 Amanda Gorman's "__ to Our Ocean"
13 "Catch my drift?"
18 *Small sign that things will improve
22 *Morning exhortation
25 "Get out of the way!"
27 Pace
28 Other, in Mazatlán
30 Taro dish
36 "If I Could Turn Back Time" singer
37 Spigot attachment
38 Away from prying eyes
39 Beauty spots?
41 Logical start?
44 Bird that cries "Mine! Mine! Mine!" in "Finding Nemo"
49 Sprain treatment
50 "You're doing it all wrong!"
51 Positive personal transformation, in slang, and what the answer to each starred clue literally has?
54 Sanjay of CNN
57 Like some LAX flights
60 German "Drat!"
61 Whiz
62 Half-__: coffee spec
63 [Head slap]

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

I	F	T	H	A	T	■	H	E	L	P	■	G	M	O
L	A	H	O	R	E	■	A	M	E	R	■	N	I	X
S	W	I	P	I	N	G	R	I	T	E	■	A	C	E
A	N	N	E	■	D	O	E	■	M	C	E	W	A	N
■	■	■	L	O	E	B	■	S	E	I	S	■	■	■
■	T	H	E	W	R	I	G	H	T	S	T	U	F	F
G	U	E	S	S	■	■	R	A	R	E	■	V	I	E
R	B	I	S	■	G	R	I	M	Y	■	R	U	L	E
O	E	D	■	B	R	I	E	■	■	S	O	L	E	S
W	R	I	T	E	O	F	F	T	H	E	B	A	T	■
■	■	■	E	A	S	T	■	R	I	C	O	■	■	■
C	O	M	E	T	S	■	I	O	S	■	T	A	T	E
A	P	E	■	S	O	U	N	D	S	R	I	G	H	T
B	A	N	■	M	U	S	K	■	E	T	C	H	E	R
O	L	D	■	E	T	A	S	■	S	E	S	A	M	E

6/9/23

BRIDGE

By Frank Stewart

This week's deals have treated "avoidance" plays by declarer: preventing a "dangerous" defender from gaining the lead.

To test yourself, cover the East-West cards. You're declarer at five clubs. (I know, you and North would have reached 3NT, played by South.) West leads the queen of hearts.

The actual declarer took the ace of hearts and drew trumps. He cashed the king of hearts, ruffed dummy's last heart and led the A-K and a third spade. East won and shifted to a diamond, and West took two diamonds. Down one.

South probably needs a 3-3 spade break so dummy's fourth spade will provide a diamond discard, but South can't afford to let East win a spade trick. South should let West's queen of hearts win the first trick. If West leads another heart, South wins, draws trumps and takes the second high heart for a spade discard. He cashes the A-K of spades, ruffs a spade and returns a trump to dummy to discard a diamond on the 13th spade. Did you duck at Trick One?

You hold: ♠ K 8 6 2 ♥ A K 5 ♦ 7 3 ♣ A J 7 3. Your partner opens one spade, and you respond 2NT, a conventional forcing raise. Partner bids three clubs. What say you?

Answer: In conjunction with your conventional 2NT, opener's three clubs shows a singleton there. The idea is to let you judge whether you have useful cards. Here, your ace of clubs is ideal (the K-Q would be "wasted"). Cue-bid three hearts. You will cue-bid the ace of clubs next.

West dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ K 8 6 2
♥ A K 5
♦ 7 3
♣ A J 7 3

WEST
♠ 9 4 3
♥ Q J 10
♦ A Q J 8 5 2
♣ 6

EAST
♠ Q J 10
♥ 9 8 6 4 2
♦ 10 9 4
♣ 8 4

SOUTH
♠ A 7 5
♥ 7 3
♦ K 6
♣ K Q 10 9 5 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2♦	Dbl	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Opening lead – ♥ Q

Tribune Content Agency

ASK AMY

Hurting in a new country

Dear Amy: I am 50, and my husband of 28 years is 62.

We recently moved to a new country for his job. Our kids are attending university in another country. This has been a huge change for me as I have no kids at home to look after. For legal reasons I can't work here, but I volunteer at a homeless shelter.

My husband recently started reaching out to all of his ex-girlfriends, and when I asked why he said he can't explain it.

I am hurt, menopausal, lonely and sad. I honestly don't know what to do.

Should I return to my home country and start my life over?

I can't speak to him or look him in the eyes because it hurts me so much.

To add to the misery, we are having his sisters visit soon for a two-week stay.

I feel like my spirit is crushed.

Crushed Woman

Dear Crushed: Your husband can explain his actions — he just doesn't want to. Now you two are engaged in a silent and lonely battle.

As hard as it is for you, I would suggest looking him in the eye and pressing for an explanation regarding his actions, and being completely honest about what you are going through.

Sitting down with a couples counselor would help.

It is possible to find therapy in other countries (I've done it), or you could connect with a therapist in your home country via telehealth.

I hope you will continue to try to build a life for yourself. Doing this when you're lonely and homesick is extremely hard work. Other expatriates can be an invaluable resource — if there are organizations or places where expatriates gather, do what you can to connect.

In the shorter term, if you can return home, at least for a visit, it might be one way for you to clear your head and clarify your options.

Because you seem to be dreading this particular event, you might want to exit while his sisters are visiting.

Dear Amy: I am a woman married to another woman. We have recently added a beautiful baby to our family, and we are ecstatic.

We know other couples like ourselves but haven't yet discussed how we should handle our somewhat unique family out in the world, or how to explain this to our child when he is older.

We'd appreciate your take.

Happy Family

Dear Happy: According to 2020 statistics from the United States Census Bureau (*census.gov*) "Overall, about 292,000 children had parents living with a same-sex partner or spouse."

You are in a small but growing demographic.

When you bring a baby home, it's natural to spin out optimal scenarios. Good parents are like good movie directors, storyboarding every shot in order to ease the way to a happy ending.

Real life is much more fluid, slow-moving and unpredictable. Raising a child is the very essence of "one day at a time."

Your household will be the norm for your baby and toddler, and likely for your circle of friends.

You won't have to explain your family as much as demonstrate your family values and answer your son's questions if they arise.

You should make a point of mixing with families of all kinds in order to show your son that no two families are exactly alike.

I love the sweet and brightly illustrated board book "Love Makes a Family" by Sophie Beer.

Email questions to Amy Dickinson at *askamy@amydickinson.com*.

FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

"Why didn't they put the zipper in front where Mommy could reach it?"

DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketcham

"I'M NOT TALKING TO MYSELF...I'M MERELY QUOTING MY INNER DIALOGUE, TO BRING MY THOUGHTS TO FULL FRUITION."

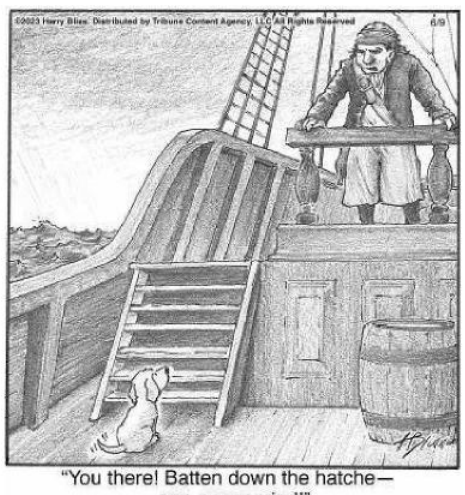
FREE RANGE By Bill Whitehead

MALL ENTRANCE
YEP... HE SHOPPED TILL HE DROPPED, ALL RIGHT!
THE REAL REASON HUMPTY FELL
6-9
©COPYRIGHT 2023 BY BILL WHITEHEAD. DISTRIBUTED BY CREATORS.COM

MARMADUKE By Brad & Paul Anderson

"Marmaduke has been waiting there ever since he heard me call you to bring home a pizza."

BLISS By Harry Bliss



"You there! Batten down the hatche— arrr, never mind!"

SPEED BUMP By Dave Coverly

COMICS

LA CUCARACHA By Lalo Alcaraz

SO, YOUNG MAN, IT'S NICE TO HAVE YOU OVER FOR DINNER.
THANKS FOR DINNER, MR. VARELA. THE FOOD IS GREAT!
VERO DOESN'T TAKE AFTER HER MOTHER IN COOKING SKILLS, I SEE!

CRABGRASS By Tauhid Bondia

WHAT IS TAKING THE ICE CREAM MAN SO LONG? IT'LL BE DARK SOON.
HE PROBABLY SKIPPED OVER OUR STREET. KEV. WE'VE BEEN STALKING HIM ALL WEEK. AFTER ALL.
I SAY GIVE HIM TEN MORE MINUTES. IF HE ISN'T HERE BY-
HE'S HERE!

CANDORVILLE By Darrin Bell

1982
I DON'T BUY ALL THE STUFF THEY TELL ME IN SUNDAY SCHOOL. BUT I DO THINK THERE'S A GOD.
YOU DO, LEMONT?
I BELIEVE THE UNIVERSE IS AN ORGANISM. LIKE MY HAMSTER. WE CALL IT "GOD," AND WE'RE ITS CONSTITUENT PARTS.
AND LIKE ANY HAMSTER, IT WANTS EVERY ONE OF ITS ORGANS AND CELLS TO THRIVE.
EVEN THE TUNAS? 'CAUSE WE KILL THEM AND PUT THEM IN CANS.
I DIDN'T SAY I HAD IT ALL WORKED OUT.

LOOSE PARTS By Dave Blazek

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE By Stephan Pastis

THE FRENCH GIRL WROTE ME AGAIN! THE FRENCH GIRL WROTE ME AGAIN!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
Le Gal. SHE WRITES A LOT.
LEGAL. YOU'RE BEING SUED.
THIS WILL HURT OUR RELATIONSHIP.

LIO By Mark Tatulli

ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

TUNDRA By Chad Carpenter

THEY SAY AFTER A WHILE PETS AND OWNERS START TO RESEMBLE EACH OTHER. FRANKLY, I DON'T SEE IT.
6-9
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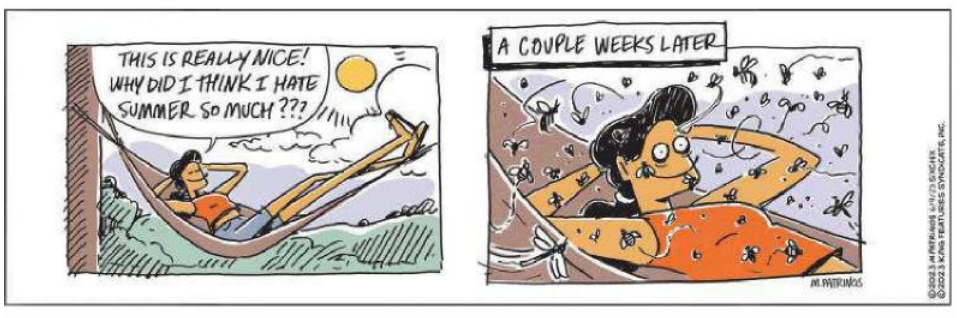
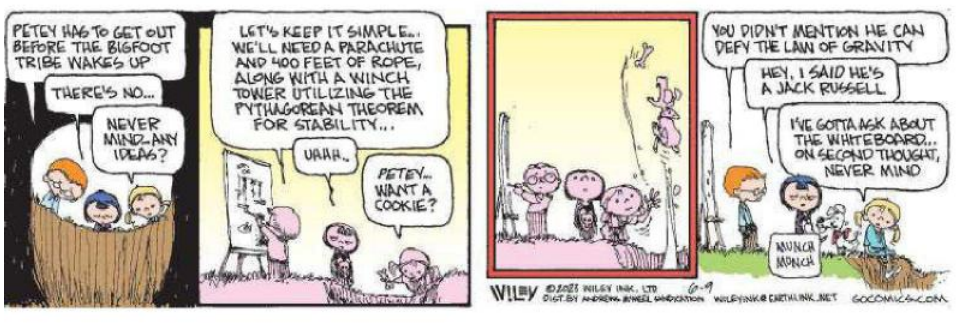
SIX CHIX By Maritsa Patrinos



FRAZZ By Jef Mallett

MY MAILMAN CARRIES PEPPER SPRAY AND DOG TREATS.
SHE'S FOREVER REFRESHING HER SUPPLY OF DOG TREATS BUT SHE'S NEVER HAD TO BUY NEW PEPPER SPRAY.
I WISH ALL PEOPLE WERE AS SMART AS CATHY THE MAILMAN.
I WISH MORE PEOPLE WERE AS TEACHABLE AS THE DOGS.

NON SEQUITUR By Wiley


PETEY HAS TO GET OUT BEFORE THE BIGFOOT TRIBE WAKES UP
THERE'S NO...
NEVER MIND. ANY IDEAS?
LET'S KEEP IT SIMPLE.. WE'LL NEED A PARACHUTE AND 400 FEET OF ROPE, ALONG WITH A WINCH, TOWER UTILIZING THE PYTHAGOREAN THEOREM FOR STABILITY...
UHHH..
PETEY.. WANT A COOKIE?
YOU DIDN'T MENTION HE CAN DEFY THE LAW OF GRAVITY
HEY, I SAID HE'S A JACK RUSSELL
I'VE GOTTA ASK ABOUT THE WHITEBOARD.. ON SECOND THOUGHT, NEVER MIND
MUNCH MUNCH
WILEY ©2023 WILEY INK, LTD DIST.BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION WILEYINK@EARTHLINK.NET GOCOMICS.COM

PICKLES By Brian Crane

QUESTION...WHY IS THE CAT USING OUR TOILET?
I TRAINED HER TO USE IT. NOW WE DON'T HAVE TO EMPTY HER LITTER BOX!
ISN'T THAT A GREAT IDEA?
THAT DEPENDS. WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO TEACH HER TO FLUSH?

BABY BLUES By Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman

HI, MOM. WHAT'S FOR DINNER?
I'LL LET YOU DECIDE.
TURKEY MEATLOAF, OR THE SLIPPERY GREEN STUFF I FOUND UNDER A BAG OF POTATOES IN THE VEGGIE DRAWER.
MEATLOAF? REALLY?
I FEEL USED.

CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers

JUMP START By Robb Armstrong

MACANUDO By Liniers

BLONDIE By Dean Young & John Marshall

BETWEEN FRIENDS By Sandra Bell-Lundy

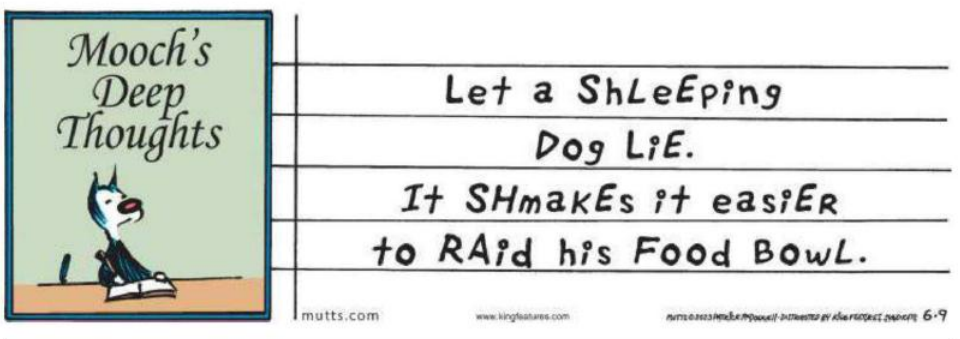
SO YOU SHOWED UP FOR YOUR PEDICURE ON THE WRONG DAY- WHO CARES?
JUST GO BACK AGAIN TOMORROW FOR YOUR SCHEDULED TIME
I CAN'T DO THAT! I'M TOO EMBARRASSED
WELL, I THINK YOU'RE BEING SILLY... BUT IF YOU CANCELED YOUR APPOINTMENT, YOU CANCELED IT

BIZARRO By Wayno and Piraro

DRABBLE By Kevin Fagan

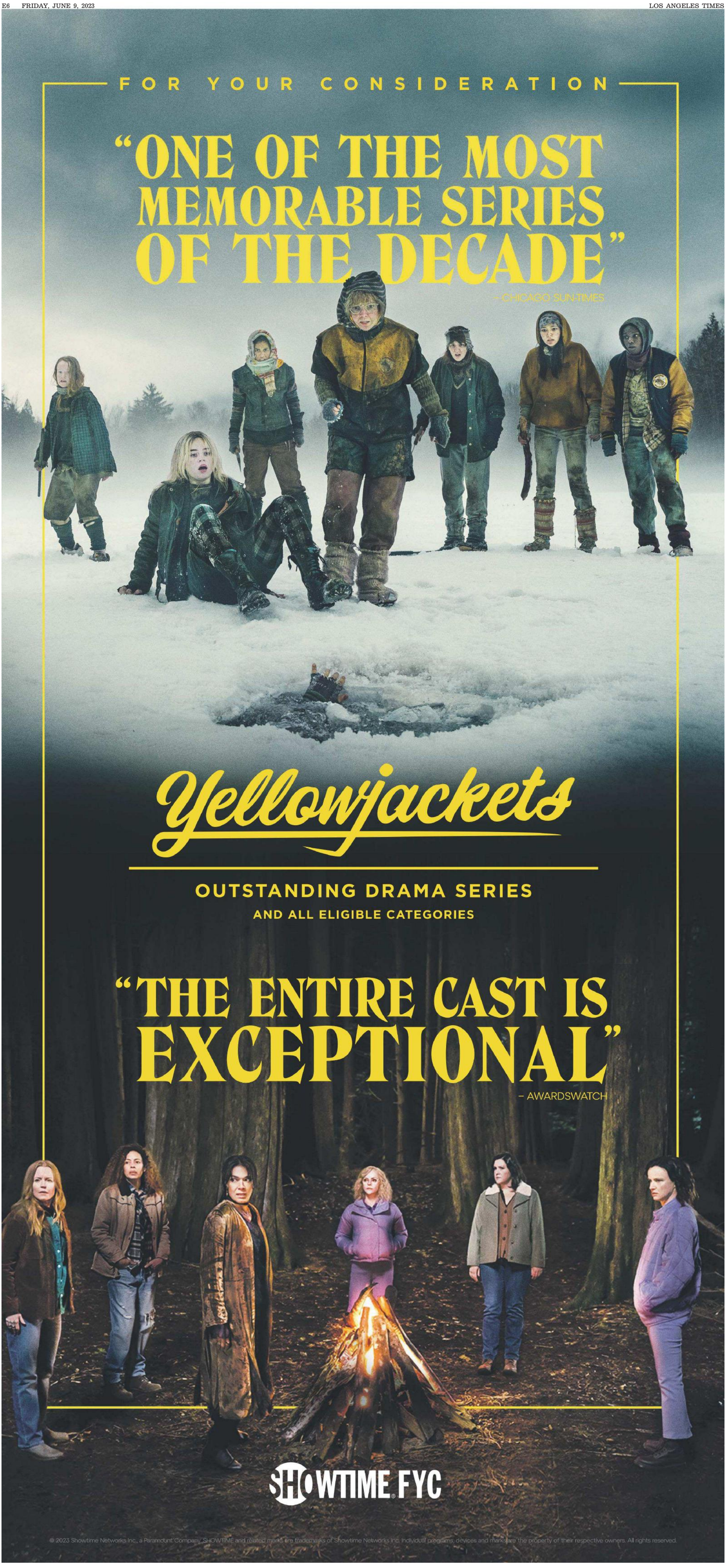
I'LL BET A LOT OF THIS BUFFET FOOD GOES TO WASTE.
NONE OF IT GOES TO WASTE ON A CRUISE SHIP!
WHATEVER IS LEFT OVER GETS MADE INTO SOMETHING ELSE!
I GUESS THAT EXPLAINS THIS EGG ROLL, SAUERKRAUT AND REFRIED BEAN PIZZA!

MUTTS By Patrick McDonnell



PEANUTS By Charles M. Schulz

WHERE WILL YOU STAY IF YOU GO TO ENGLAND?
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYONE THERE
WHY CAN'T I STAY DOWNSTAIRS WITH MR. HUDSON AND MRS. BRIDGES?
BETTER YET, I'LL STAY UPSTAIRS WITH MISS GEORGINA!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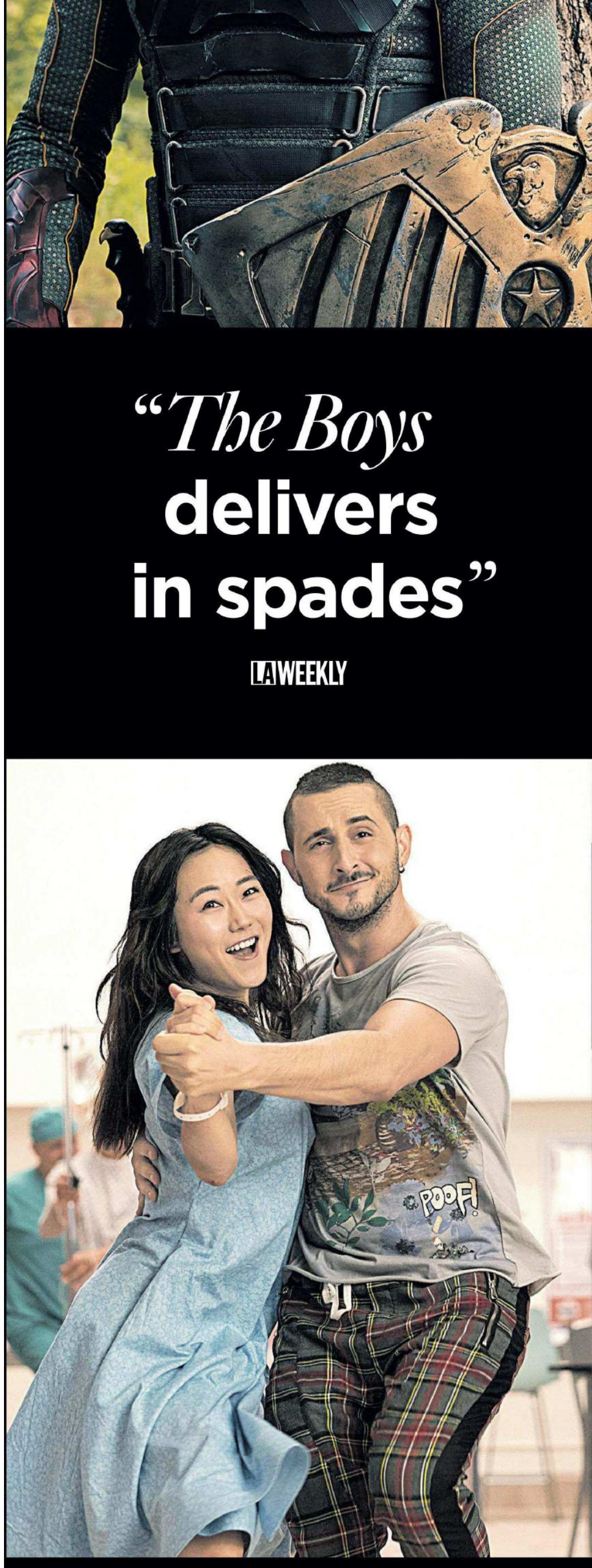
“*The Boys* delivers in spades”

LA WEEKLY



OUTSTANDING DRAMA SERIES
AND ALL OTHER CATEGORIES

"An exceptional cast"
AWARDSWATCH

THE BOYS

"Better than ever"
/Film

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OUTSTANDING DRAMA SERIES
AND ALL OTHER CATEGORIES

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The Telegraph

"**Absolutely perfect**"

Time Out

"**Brilliant**"

The Guardian

THE BOYS

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OUTSTANDING
DRAMA SERIES
AND ALL OTHER CATEGORIES

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Forbes

"Savagely satirical"
CNN

THE BOYS

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